



12¢

# Adventure COMICS

featuring **SUPERBOY** and the  
**LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES**

NO. 353  
FEB.

ONE OF THE  
LEGIONNAIRES  
ON THIS COVER  
WILL **DIE!**  
YOU'LL BE  
**SHOCKED**  
BY THE IDENTITY OF..  
**"The DOOMED  
LEGIONNAIRE!"**





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Throw your voice into trunks, behind doors, everywhere. Instrument fits in your mouth and out of sight. Fool teacher, friends and family. Free book on "How to Become a Ventriloquist." No. 137 25¢



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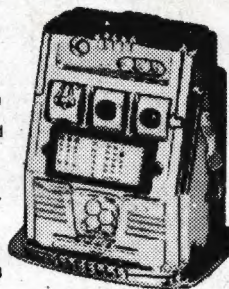
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REDUCE ANY ASSAULT TO CRINGING HELPLESSNESS IN SECONDS

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The most popular joke novelty in years! Wind up and wear it like a ring. When you shake hands, it almost raises the victim off his feet with a "shocking sensation." Absolutely harmless. No. 239 Only 50¢

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An Hilarious Optical Illusion \$1.00



Scientific optical principle really works. Imagine—you put on the "X-Ray" Specs and hold your hand in front of you. You seem to be able to look right through the flesh and see the bones underneath. Look at your friend, is that really his body you "see" under his clothes? Loads of laughs and fun at parties. No. FL7 \$1.00

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This exciting new 6-power wide field magnifier is cleverly concealed in a pen-sized pocket scope that lets you "peek" to your hearts content. So handy for Sporting Events, Counter-spying and Girl Watching. Also contains a 30-power full microscope to thrill any naturalist. Not a toy, but a real instrument. Full money back guarantee if not delighted. Only \$2.98-Item No. F59 \$2.98

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# TALES OF THE LEGION of SUPER-HEROES

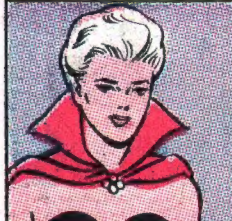
## THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES



**SUPERBOY, ACTING  
LEGION LEADER!**



**COSMIC BOY, MASTER  
OF MAGNETISM!**



**PRINCESS PROJECTRA,  
CREATOR  
OF ILLUSIONS!**



**SUN BOY, LIVING  
BEACON OF HEAT  
AND LIGHT!**



**FERRO LAD, WHO CAN  
TURN TO SOLID IRON!**



CAN YOU IMAGINE THE F.B.I. TEAMING UP WITH THE MAFIA?... CAN YOU PICTURE U.N.C.L.E. MAKING A PACT WITH THRUSH? PRETTY UNLIKELY, EH? BUT NO MORE UNLIKELY THAN WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE... THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES FORMING AN ALLIANCE WITH THE FATAL FIVE! THEIR OBJECTIVE: TO DESTROY THE MONSTROUS SUN-EATER! AND THAT'S ABOUT AS EASY AS CATCHING A TIGER WITH A BUTTERFLY NET! THIS TIME ALL THE SUPER-HEROES CAN'T POSSIBLY COME OUT OF THE BATTLE ALIVE... ONE IS FATED TO BE...

**"The DOOMED LEGIONNAIRE!"**

## THE FATAL FIVE



**THAROK, HALF MAN,  
HALF ROBOT!**



**MANDA, WHOSE HAND  
DISINTEGRATES  
ANYTHING!**



**EMERALD EMPRESS,  
MISTRESS OF THE  
MIGHTY EMERALD EYE!**



**THE PERSUADER,  
OWNER OF AN  
INVINCIBLE AXE!**



**VALIDUS, WHOSE  
BRAIN FLASHES  
LIGHTNING!**

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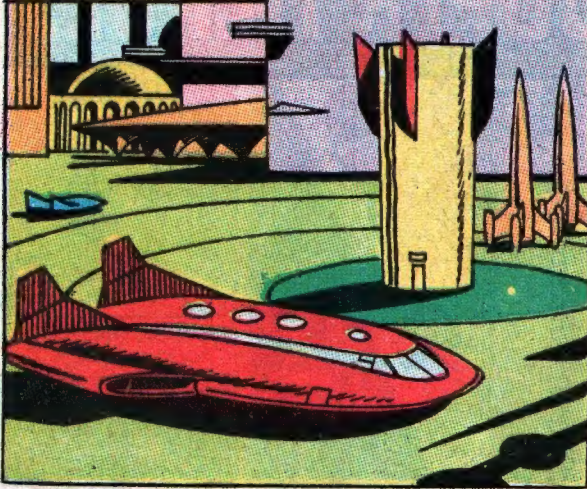
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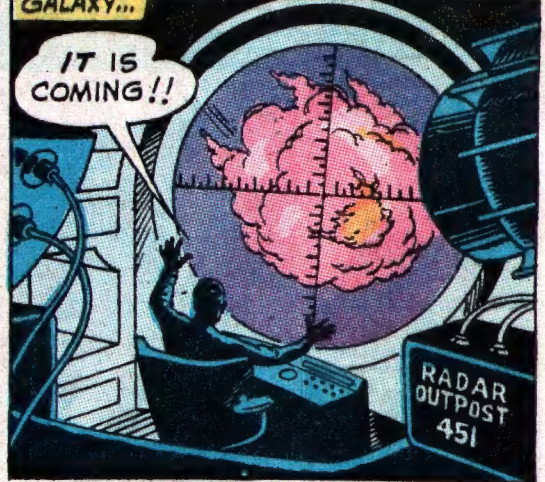
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TIME! THE TWENTIETH CENTURY... PLACE: A LARGE STAR CRUISER JUST OUTSIDE LEGION HEADQUARTERS...



THE SITUATION: THE MOST TERRIBLE MENACE IN THE UNIVERSE... THE FEARSOME SUN-EATER... WAS SEEN APPROACHING OUR GALAXY...



NEWS OF THE CRISIS WAS BEAMED TO THE LEGION...

IT HAS BEEN KNOWN TO CONSUME ENTIRE GALAXIES!

BUT AT OTHER TIMES, IT HAS DEVoured JUST ONE SUN, THEN MOVED AWAY!

EITHER WAY... SINCE WE'RE RIGHT IN ITS PATH... EARTH IS DOOMED!



THE DESPERATE CALL WENT OUT FOR HELP TO ALL THE HEROES OF THE GALAXY, BUT...

I COULD NEVER REACH EARTH IN TIME!

I AM NEEDED HERE, TO HELP BUILD ESCAPE SHIPS!

BAH! WHY SHOULD I RISK MY NECK? IT MAY NOT MENACE MY WORLD!

IT'S A HOPELESS CAUSE!



AND SO...

SIGH! IN FOUR DAYS, SOL WILL BE DEVoured... ALL LIFE ON ITS PLANETS... INCLUDING EARTH... WILL DIE!

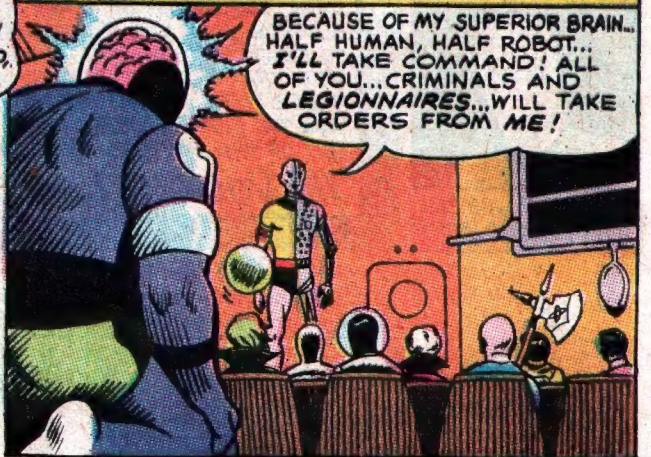
THE OTHER LEGIONNAIRES ARE FAR AWAY... OTHER HEROES WON'T HELP US... WE'VE FAILED!

SAY, WAIT! THE VILLAINS OF THE GALAXY ARE MENACED, TOO! MAYBE...

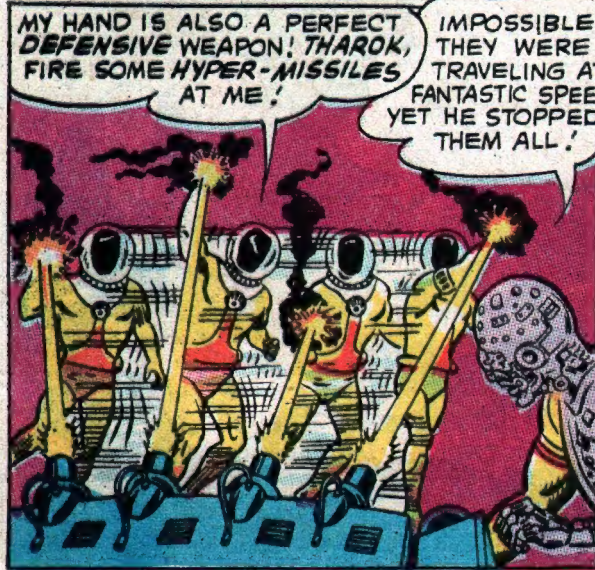
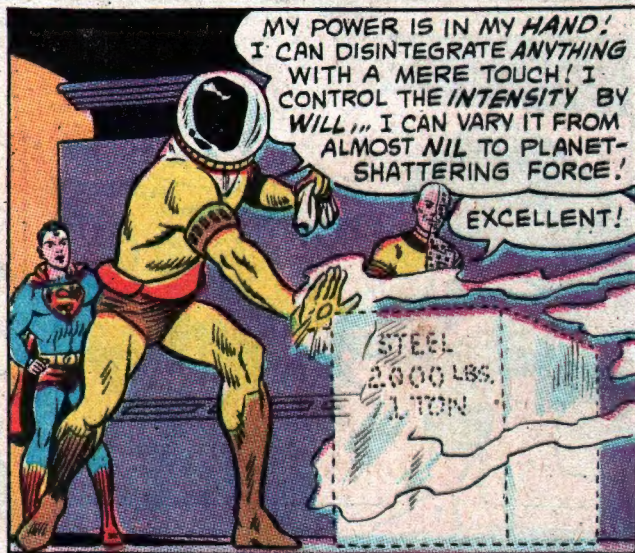
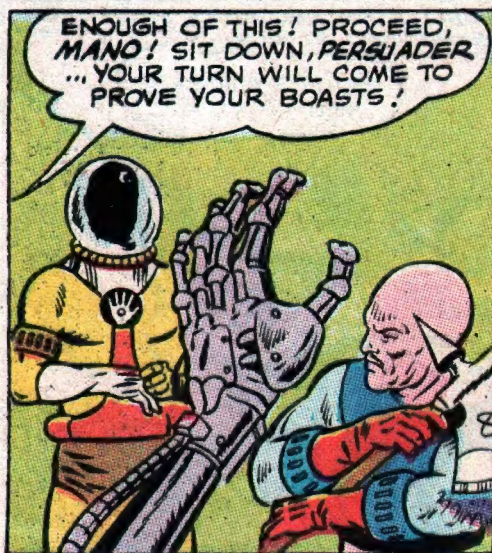


SO, SETTING OUT TO ENLIST THE GALAXY'S 5 GREATEST CRIMINALS, OFFERING THEM FULL PARDONS IN EXCHANGE FOR AID, THE HEROES GAIN THEIR COOPERATION! LATER, IN HIS SHIP, THAROK ADDRESSES BOTH HEROES AND VILLAINS...

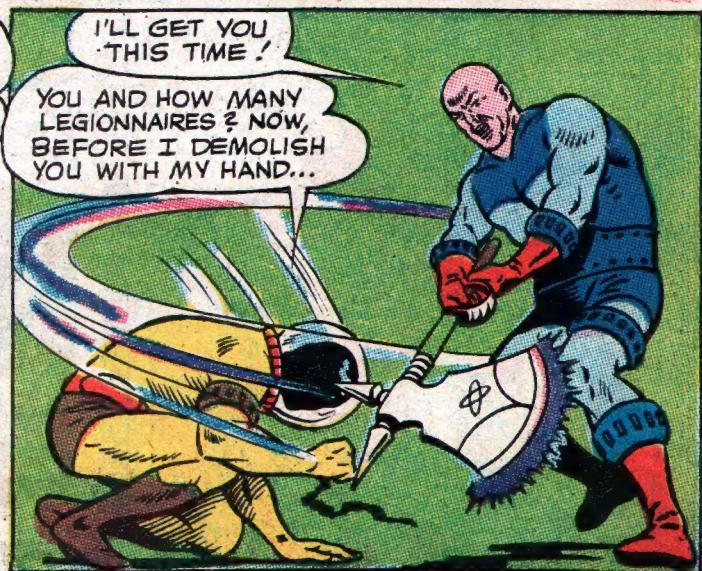
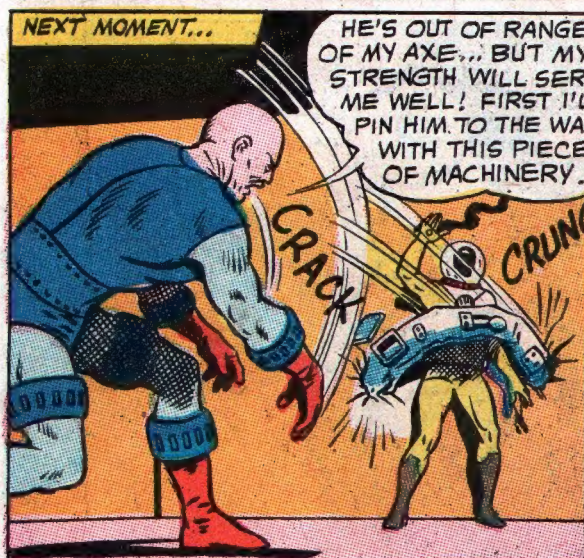
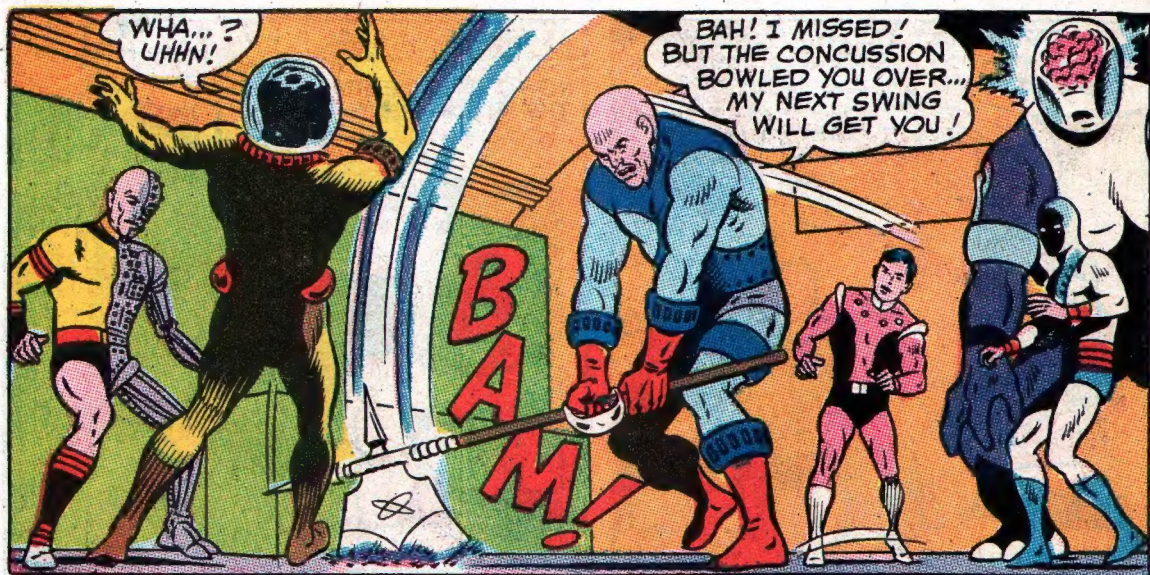
BECAUSE OF MY SUPERIOR BRAIN... HALF HUMAN, HALF ROBOT... I'LL TAKE COMMAND! ALL OF YOU... CRIMINALS AND LEGIONNAIRES... WILL TAKE ORDERS FROM ME!



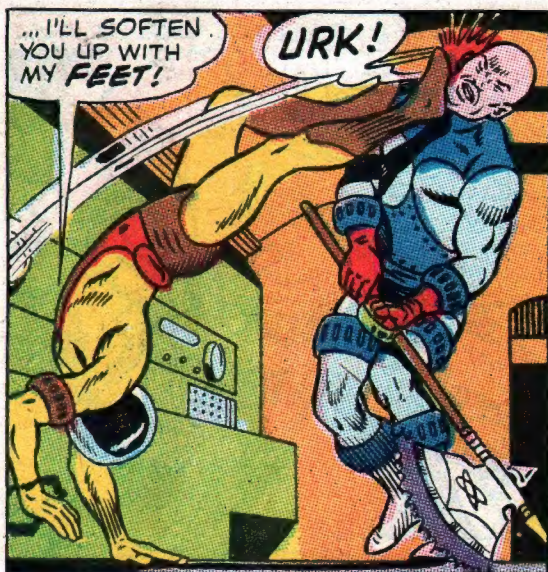






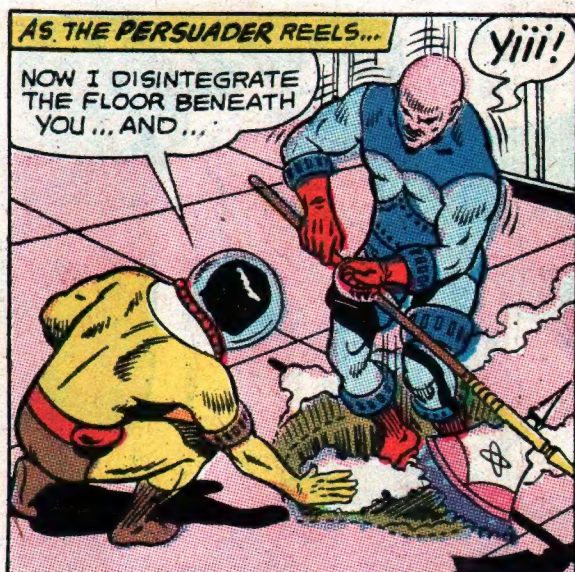






...I'LL SOFTEN YOU UP WITH MY **FEET!**

**URK!**



**AS THE PERSUADER REELS...**

NOW I DISINTEGRATE THE FLOOR BENEATH YOU ... AND ...

**yiii!**



YOU FORGET MY AXE CUTS **ENERGY**. I SIMPLY SLICED GRAVITY BENEATH ME AND ROSE UP AGAIN! AND NOW...

WE'LL SEE WHICH IS MORE POWERFUL ... MY **HAND** OR YOUR **AXE!**



**INVINCIBLE AXE MEETS UNSTOPPABLE HAND... AND...**



**STUNNED BY THE BLAST, THE PERSUADER AND MANO REEL...**

NO MORE SENSELESS BRAWLING. YOU TWO WILL WRECK THE SHIP!

IT'S THE **EMERALD EMPRESS**, USING HER **EMERALD EYE** TO CREATE **BONDS** TO HOLD US!

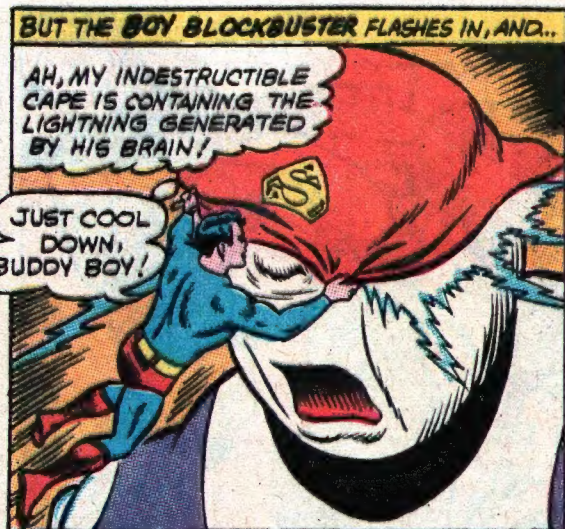
RELEASE US, WOMAN, OR YOUR PRETTY **THROAT** WILL FEEL MY **BLADE!**



I ECHO THE **PERSUADER**, **EMPRESS...** LET US GO, OR INCUR MY **WRATH!**

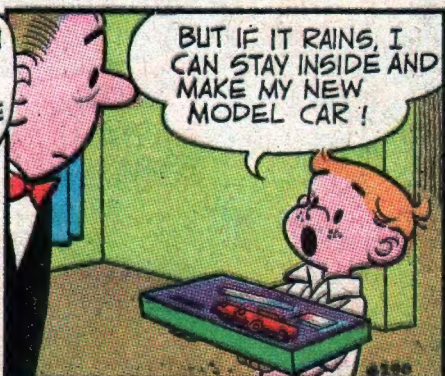
LOOK OUT... **VALIDUS** IS GETTING **MAD!**





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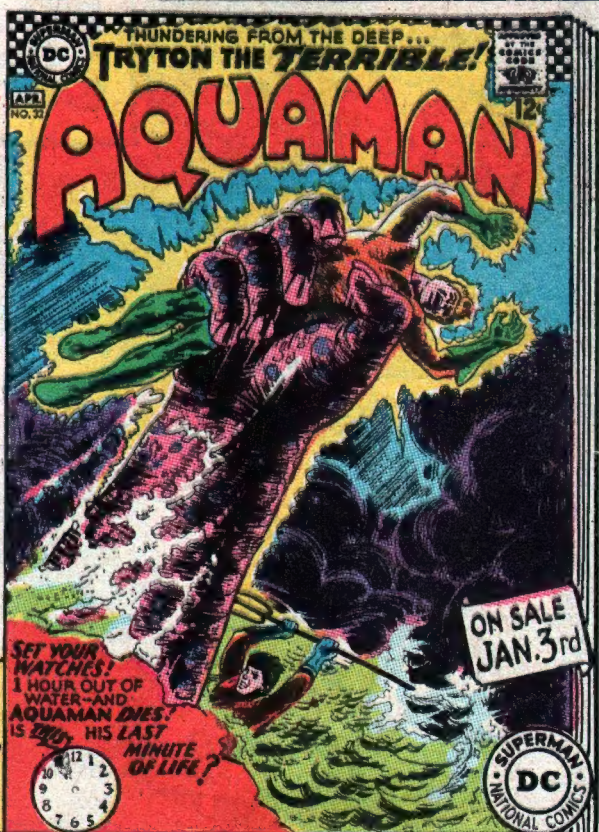
**TICK-tock...  
Tick-tock...  
Tick-tock...**

**TIME IS RUNNING OUT**  
AS EACH CLICK OF THE CLOCK SIGNALS THE **SEA KING'S DOOM!**

COUNT THE MINUTES...  
COUNT THE SECONDS...

DON'T LET TIME RUN OUT ON YOU!  
HURRY TO YOUR FAVORITE NEWSSTAND  
FOR THE LATEST SMASH ISSUE OF...

**AQUAMAN!**





# PEACE ON EARTH

THE ALPHABET AND THE LANGUAGE MAY BE DIFFERENT, BUT THE SAME SENTIMENT DWELLS IN THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF MEN ALL OVER THE WORLD.





**HAROLD and JOHN ARE DREAMING ABOUT the CARS THEY WOULD LIKE to OWN.**

**I WANT A 1957 "T" BIRD OR A 1911 BUICK BUG, A 1965 CORVETTE STING RAY, AN ALFA ROMEO P-3 OR A 1916 STUTZ BEARCAT.**

**I'D LIKE TO HAVE A 1910 STANLEY STEAMER, A 1925 MODEL T FORD OR A FERRARI AMERICA 342.**

**STEVE OVERHEARS THE CONVERSATION.**

**I'VE GOT 'EM ALL AND A LOT MORE IN MY RENWAL COLLECTOR'S SHOWCASES.**

**OH, YEAH? SHOW US!**

**WOW! JUST LIKE THE REAL THING. LOOK AT THE AUTHENTIC DETAILING!**

**I JUST FINISHED THIS 1939 MERCEDES BENZ 540-K. ALL THE PARTS COME IN THE EXACT COLORS. YOU DON'T HAVE TO PAINT THEM.**

**DOESN'T THIS ONE HAVE A DISPLAY CASE?**

**KITS AT 79¢, 89¢, 99¢ INCLUDING SHOWCASE.**

**SURE, ALL 24 MODELS DO. AND WITH EVERY FOUR MODELS YOU GET A FREE 16" WALL BRACKET LIKE THIS.**

**I'M GONNA COLLECT THEM ALL! AND I HEAR RENWAL WILL SOON ADD TO THIS SERIES!**

**YEAH! NOW I CAN HAVE ALL THE CARS I EVER WANTED!**

**SHOWCASE SERIES 25**

**by RENWAL**

**SEND 10¢ FOR EXCITING COLOR CATALOGUE OF ALL 24 MODELS! RENWAL PRODUCTS, INC. Dept. NC-4, Mineola, N.Y.**

**Even the ENEMY VOTED Sgt. ROCK'S 6 BATTLE STARS THEIR ALL-TIME FAVORITES!**

**THRILL TO 6 BLOCKBUSTER BATTLE TALES FEATURING SGT. ROCK! LT. JEB STUART! JOHNNY CLOUD! GUNNER & SARGE with POOCH! Mlle. MARIE!**

**DON'T MISS THE MIGHTY SIX of DC'S BATTLE PARADE IN THEIR SECOND BLAZING REQUEST 80 PAGE WAR GIANT!**

**WATCH FOR THIS GIANT BATTLE BARGAIN ON SALE EVERYWHERE...**

**ON SALE DEC. 13**

**80 pg. GIANT**

**ARMY OF WAR SGT. ROCK'S 6 BATTLE STARS**

**HERE'S THE MIGHTY SIX-- IN THE 2nd SMASH ISSUE YOU DEMANDED! ALL BLAZING REQUEST TALES!**

**LT. JEB STUART OF THE HAUNTED THUMB**

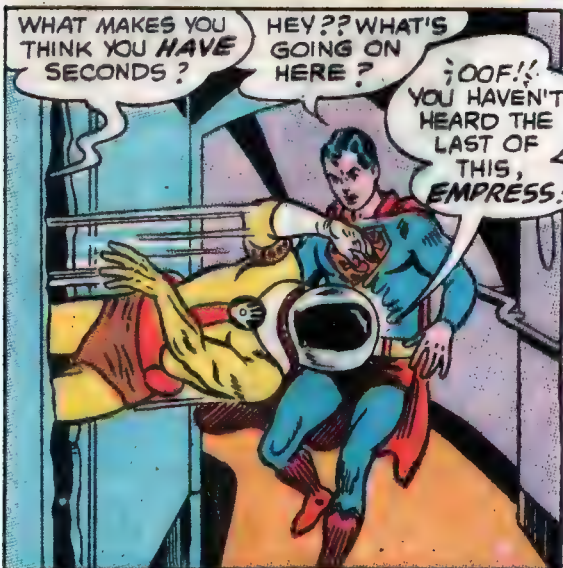
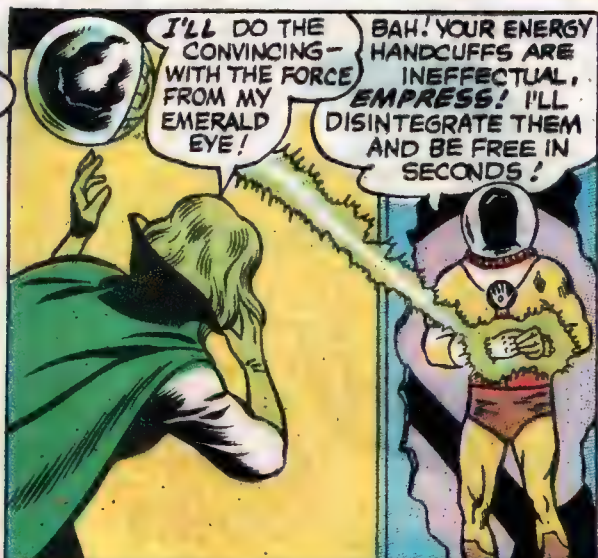
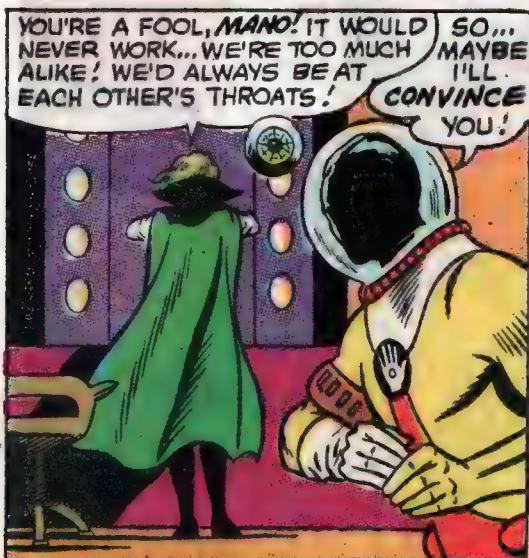
**ACE CAPT. CLOUD**

**Mlle. MARIE**

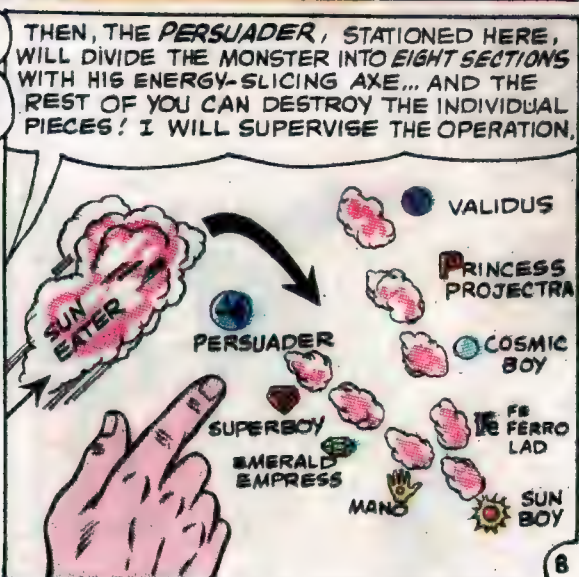
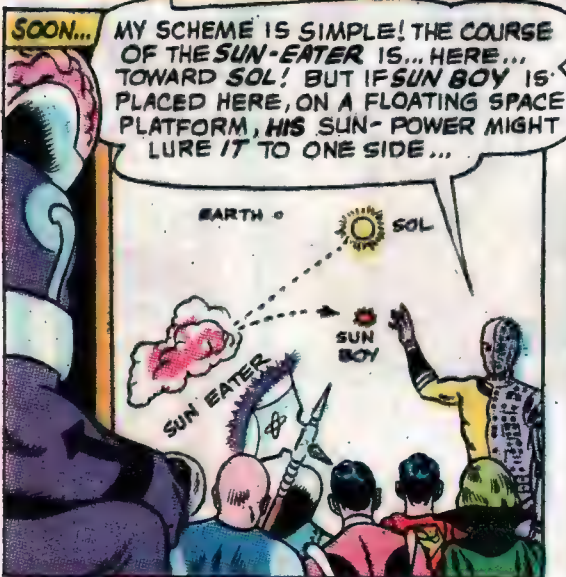
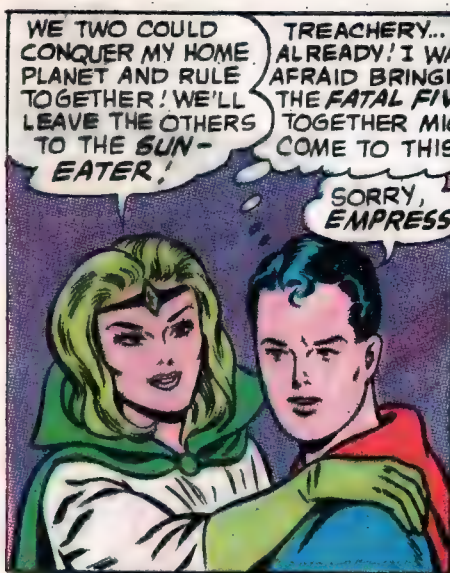
**GUNNER & SARGE WITH POOCH**

**SPECIAL FROGMAN GUEST STAR IN A BATTLE BONUS STORY!**

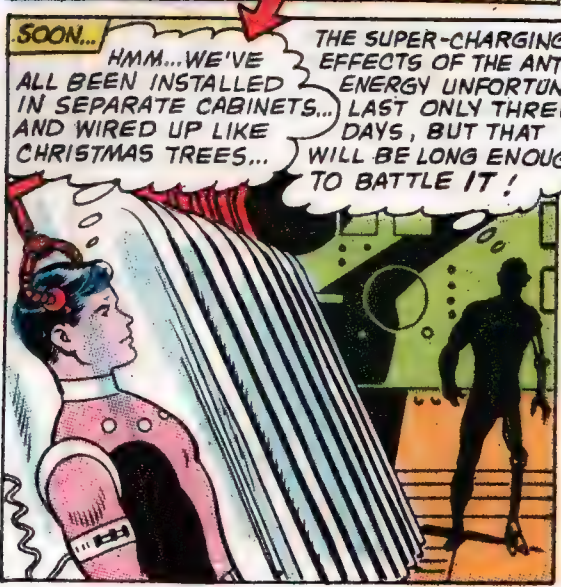
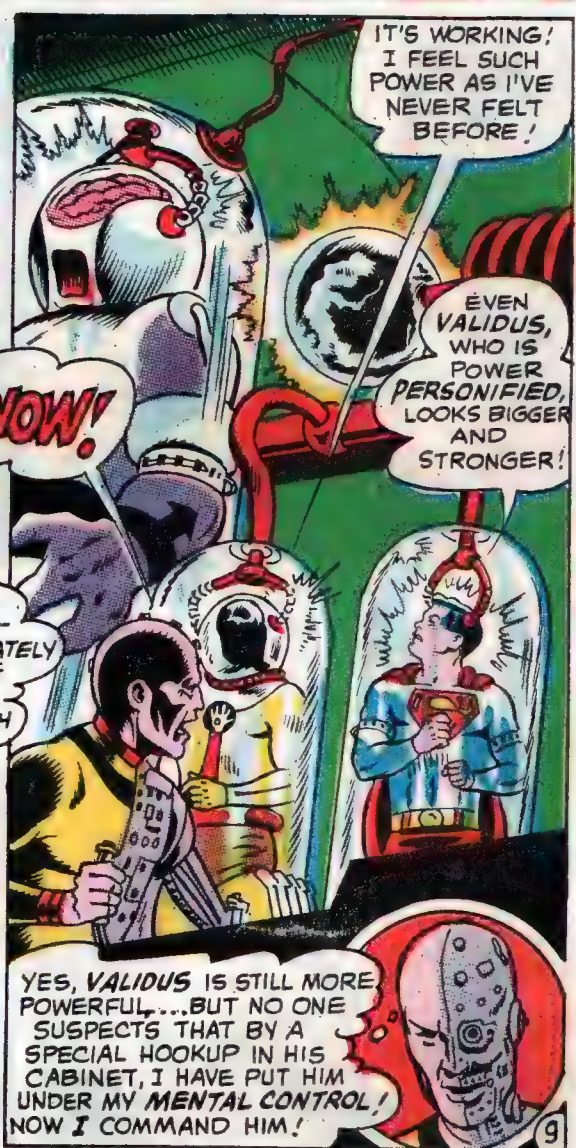
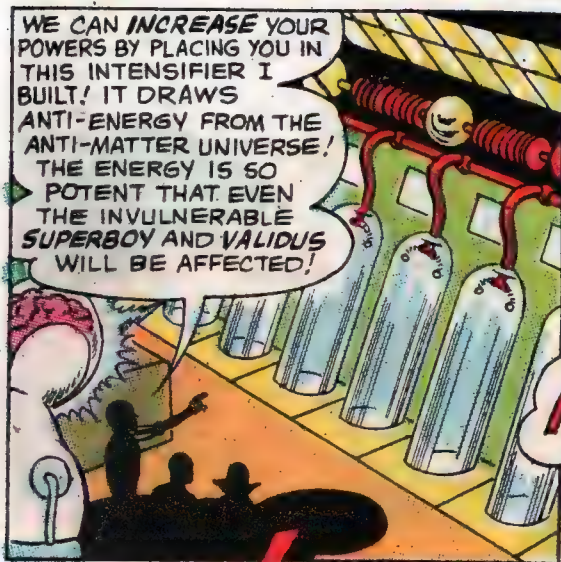
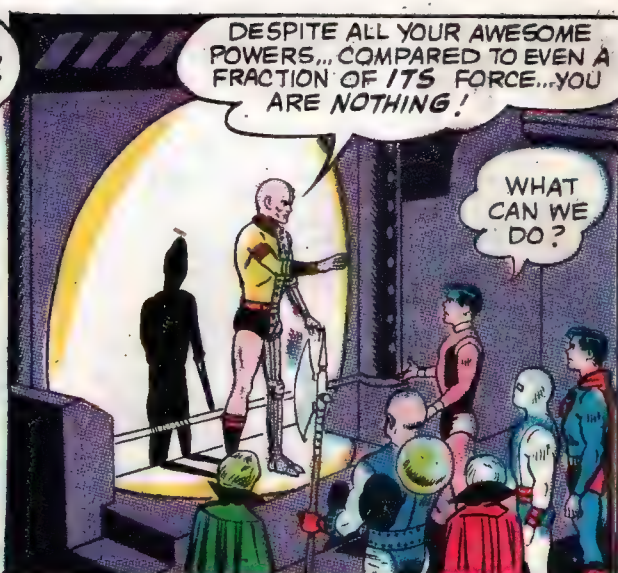






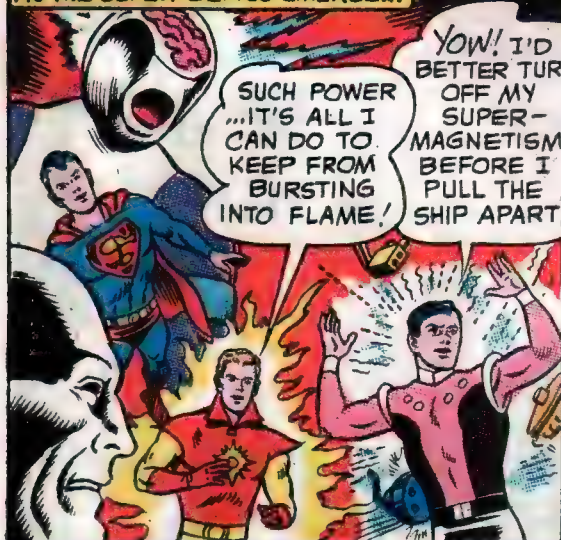








AS THE SUPER-BEINGS EMERGE...

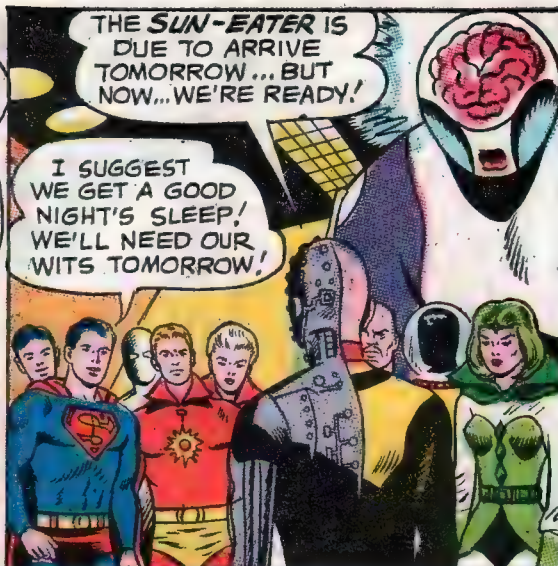


SUCH POWER  
...IT'S ALL I  
CAN DO TO  
KEEP FROM  
BURSTING  
INTO FLAME!

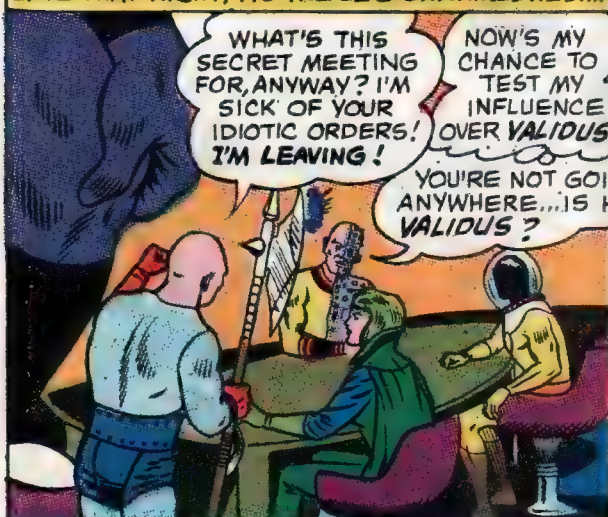
YOW! I'D  
BETTER TURN  
OFF MY  
SUPER-  
MAGNETISM  
BEFORE I  
PULL THE  
SHIP APART!

THE **SUN-EATER** IS  
DUE TO ARRIVE  
TOMORROW... BUT  
NOW... WE'RE READY!

I SUGGEST  
WE GET A GOOD  
NIGHT'S SLEEP!  
WE'LL NEED OUR  
WITS TOMORROW!



LATE THAT NIGHT, AS THE **LEGIONNAIRES** REST...



WHAT'S THIS  
SECRET MEETING  
FOR, ANYWAY? I'M  
SICK OF YOUR  
IDIOTIC ORDERS!  
I'M LEAVING!

NOW'S MY  
CHANCE TO  
TEST MY  
INFLUENCE  
OVER **VALIDUS**!

YOU'RE NOT GOING  
ANYWHERE... IS HE,  
**VALIDUS**?

**VALIDUS**?  
...EH?  
URR?

YOU...  
WILL...  
STAY!

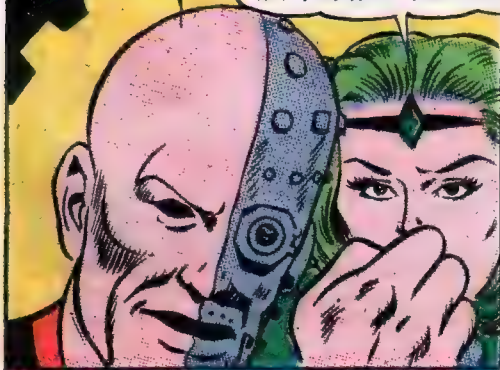
HA, HA!  
HE FOLLOWS  
MY SLIGHTEST  
SUGGESTION!  
I KNEW HE  
WOULD COME  
IN HANDY!



AND SO... THE **LEGIONNAIRES** BROUGHT  
US TOGETHER TO SAVE THE  
GALAXY... AND WE WILL... FOR OURSELVES!  
WE'LL CONQUER IT... KILL THOSE **LEGION**  
FOOLS, AND RULE ALL!

NO! I NEED  
**SUPERBOY** TO CONQUER  
MY PLANET FOR ME!

BAH! WE WILL CONQUER A  
HUNDRED PLANETS FOR YOU,  
**EMPRESS**! NOW... ALL OF YOU!  
PLEDGE YOUR ALLEGIANCE  
TO THE **FATAL FIVE**!





THE NEXT MORNING...AS DAWN...AND DOOM... SLOWLY CREEP UP ON A TENSE AND BREATHLESS EARTH...TEN MIGHTY FIGURES MOUNT SPACE PLATFORMS...AND PREPARE TO FACE A FOE A BILLION TIMES THEIR STRENGTH...



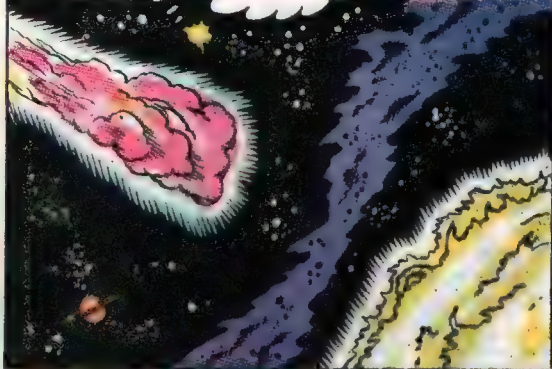
THERE IT IS!  
GREAT CYGNUS!  
IT'S A MILLION  
MILES AWAY...  
BUT IT'S SO HUGE!  
... IT STILL  
LOOKS GIGANTIC!



IT'S TRAVELING AT IMMENSE  
SPEED... I'D BETTER START  
SUNNING IT UP, OR IT'LL  
PASS OUR TRAP!

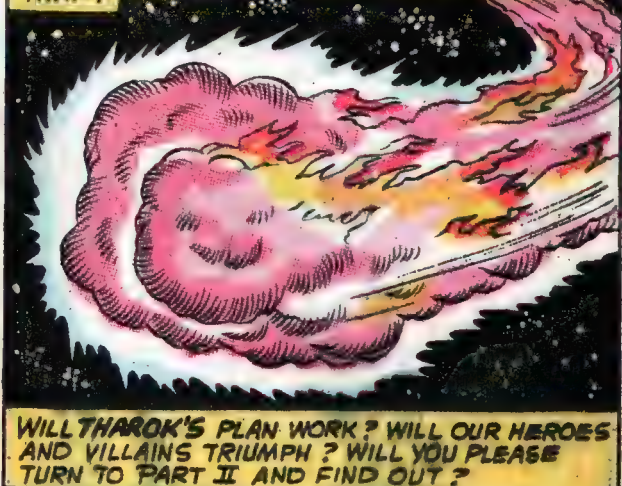
BUT AFTER ANXIOUS MOMENTS OF RADIATING  
HIS FULL SOLAR POWER...

IT ISN'T TURNING...  
MY SUN-POWER...EVEN INCREASED... ISN'T  
ENOUGH TO DRAW IT FROM ITS COURSE TOWARDS  
SOL...BUT IT **MUST** BE! A GALAXY IS AT  
STAKE!



I'LL TRY  
HARDER!  
IT MUST  
TURN! I  
CAN'T FAIL  
NOW!

SLOWLY... PONDEROUSLY... THE MONSTER SLOWS  
ITS ADVANCE... THEN TURNS... AND ENTERS THE  
TRAP!



WILL THAROK'S PLAN WORK? WILL OUR HEROES  
AND VILLAINS TRIUMPH? WILL YOU PLEASE  
TURN TO PART II AND FIND OUT?





Dear Editor: Super-magnificent—that's what "The Outcast Super-Heroes" was. The plot was terrific; the art was wow!; the writing was tremendous. Every panel had me gasping. This was one of Curt Swan's best art achievements. The way the heroes were drawn made me appreciate them more. The villains were amazing and the battles between the monsters and the Legionnaires were stupendous. I loved seeing the convocation of the Legionnaires because it was so perfectly drawn. I can't wait to see the conclusion of the story. Your cover was too much! If you keep this up, you can easily beat Brands A to Z. —Tom Shields, Danville, Ill.

(Why not? We have more heroes in the Legion than most companies have in *all* their comics. —Ed.)

\* \* \*

Dear Editor: This is the first time that I've ever written to any mag. But I read yours all the time and I think they are TREMENDOUS! I have one question. In a recent Direct Currents column, it says that Superboy and Supergirl get kicked out of the Legion. How can Supergirl be in the Legion when she didn't come to Earth until Superboy grew up to be Superman? —Jay Burdick, Bradford, R.I.

(You might as well ask how either one of the super-cousins can belong to a club which exists a thousand years after their time. The answer to both questions is the same: time travel —Ed.)

\* \* \*

Dear Editor: I think it's a bit strange that all the Legionnaires in your magazines can live on Earth without any discomfort. Surely you don't expect us to believe that the Legionnaires all come from planets with the same atmosphere and temperature as Earth. Surely Saturn Girl wouldn't be able to live on Earth without special equipment, and I'm sure she is not the only one. So please clear up this point. —Norm Nichols, Arispe, Iowa.

(There are a good many Earthlike planets in the universe, and 30th-century science is able to help persons adapt to conditions on other worlds. —Ed.)

\* \* \*

Dear Editor: An open letter to Elizabeth Kane and other readers like her:

Dear Readers: If you want ROMANCE, why don't you stick to the Romance Comics? Personally, I appreciate it when a comic is what it claims to be; and after all, this is ADVENTURE Comics. Please remember that. I stopped buying one brand of comics because their stories, whether science fiction, ghost stories, mysteries, or whatever, were nothing but glorified love stories, and I got sick of it. I wouldn't want to give up ADVENTURE or any other DC comic I enjoy, because up to now they have been the best on the market. But if they start saturating the non-romance mags with mush to please you lovesick puppies, it may call for drastic action . . . and I know a lot of people who feel the same way. —Dave Olsen, Santa Barbara, Calif.

(Never fear—when we call a mag ADVENTURE, we mean ADVENTURE! But what's wrong with including a little romance, too? We want to keep your kind and Liz's kind coming back for more! —Ed.)

\* \* \*

Dear Editor: ADVENTURE No. 351 was simply marvelous. Lightning Lad got his arm back, Bouncing Boy got his power back, Star Boy and Dream Girl got back into the Legion, and Color Kid even got Superboy and Supergirl back in. Well, everything is just fine except for one little difficulty. Where is Lone Wolf??? In ADVENTURE No. 331, you stated in the letter column that you would bring back Lone Wolf as soon as you could get another name for him. Well, you've certainly had time to think one up, so bring him back! —David Luhn, Fayetteville, Ark.

(Will do—very soon. Meanwhile, for L.W.'s new name, and a look at him as an adult, see the story in the next issue of ADVENTURE. It's a look at the Legion as they'll be when they grow up! —Ed.)

\* \* \*

Dear Editor: ADVENTURE No. 350 was the best issue ever! I can't wait to see if Supergirl and Superboy remain ousted from the Legion. The best part of the whole issue was when Shrinking Violet "operated" on Superboy by traveling through his bloodstream to his brain. That reminded me of one of my favorite movies—FANTASTIC VOYAGE. Did your writer see that picture and get the "operating scene" from it? —Jack Jodell, Minneapolis, Minn.

(He couldn't have, because the story was written *before* the movie was released. Writer E. Nelson Bridwell does confess to having read Isaac Asimov's novelization of the story, however. But the basic idea was used years ago in a Supergirl story. —Ed.)

\* \* \*

Dear Editor: While leafing through my collection of ADVENTURE COMICS, I am amazed at how much the Legion has changed. Take issue 267, for example. This was some time before the regular Legion series started with No. 300. On the cover, Saturn Girl is emitting lightning bolts from her eyes; her hair is blonde and long. In the story, the Legionnaires fly with rocket belts, and Saturn Girl's hair is brown and short in a flip. Cosmic Boy's costume is pink and purple; Saturn Girl's is a sort of purplish cranberry. Cosmic Boy's hair lacks the cute wave it has now. The only one of the trio then featured who has not changed greatly is Lightning Lad, although he looks two or three years older now. All in all, the Legion has changed for the better, and if you ever drop this series, as you did the Bizarros, I will come down and picket your office. —Liz Kane, East Meadow, N.Y. (Thanks for your high opinion of the Legion—and for not suggesting that the differences between the Super-Heroes then and now is due to careless editing on our part. —Ed.)

(Continued on next page)



Dear Editor: I have just finished ADVENTURE No. 349 and I had to sit down and write you. "The Rogue Legionnaire" was the greatest Legion story I ever read. There are simply not words in the English language to describe it! I especially liked the surprise ending, where we found that the Science Fair winner was Universo's son. Usually your Legion stories don't surprise me, because I know to expect anything, but this simply left me *stunned*, so that I had to read it again to make sure I had read it correctly the first time. There was one thing that puzzled me. How did Universo know that Shrinking Violet would be sent to Egypt and not Saturn Girl, Brainiac 5, or one of the others? He told the falconer of her shrinking power. Nevertheless, the story was *great*, and as a future writer myself, my hat is off to any 14-year-old who could write a tale like that! —Violet Smith, Santa Ana, Calif.

(Jim Shooter just celebrated his 15th birthday, but he thanks you just the same. As for Universo, he gave descriptions of all five Legionnaires to all five of his henchmen in the past. —Ed.)

\* \* \*

Dear Editor: Miss Terious and Sir Prize were a Mysterious Surprise! Yessir, we sure had a hard time coming to the conclusion that those mystery Legionnaires were actually Supergirl and Superboy in disguise! (And, being the cautious soul I am, I'm wondering if you're pulling a double-switch and fooling us all. Maybe Miss Terious is Night Girl and Sir Prize is Star Boy.) Though I'm not a proponent of the "one issue, one complete story" theory, I must say that the twelve pages of saying goodbye to Superboy and Supergirl seemed somewhat forced, just so the story would not end in this issue. Yes, I know these pages gave some "human interest" to the whole story, but I can't see the need for the super-cousins to forget the Legion! —Irene Vartanoff, Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, Ill.

(By now you've seen the cover of the follow-up issue and *know* why we wanted the forgetfulness bit. When we put complications in our stories, we don't mess around! What could be worse than a Legion trying to get help from a Superboy who doesn't remember them? And, incidentally, congrats on correctly unmasking Sir Prize as Star Boy. —Ed.)

\* \* \*

Dear Editor: With today's magazines putting stress on sensationalism and misleading titles, I have been wondering what sort of scandals a magazine of the far future would dream up about the Legion. Here are some of the stories that one might find in a mag called THE LEGION LOWDOWN: Lightning Lad and Matter-Eater Lad: "The Shock They Couldn't Stomach!" . . . Superboy: "Lana Lang Is Only Half a Woman Compared to Duo Damsell!" . . . Invisible Kid: "The Leader Nobody Notices!" . . . Light Lass: "Don't Ask Me About—MY BROTHER'S SWEET-HEART!" . . . "Don't Be Afraid of the Dark" by Sun Boy. —Elizabeth Kane, East Meadow, N.Y.

(And how about these: "The Problems of Being Short" by Shrinking Violet . . . "Big Man on Campus" by Colossal Boy! . . . and "The Day My Illusions Were Shattered" by Princess Projectra. By the way, Liz, you have two letters in this issue! After Dave Olsen's letter, this should make you feel better. —Ed.)

\* \* \*

Dear Editor: In the November issue you made a remark about one of my favorite heroes, put out by a

competitor of yours. I know which web-headed character Chameleon Boy was talking about, and it's this kind of remark that makes the Comic Kingdom a rotten profession. Please—no more remarks about Spidey. By the way, how come Lightning Lad and Saturn Girl are calling each other by their first names? —Gene Conieau, Norwich, Conn.

(Gosh, Gene, we didn't mean to get your dander up! It was just a little joke! If we went around weeping and gnashing our teeth every time someone told a gag about Superman, we'd be neck-deep in tears! As for L.L. and S.G., don't you think they've known each other long enough to use the names Garth and Imra—especially since they're engaged? —Ed.)

\* \* \*

Dear Editor: Begging your humble pardon, O ye almighty Editor, but I think you have flipped! From what I have gathered, ADVENTURE No. 351 *should* include most of the Legionnaires, the identity of the surprising Sir Prize and the mysterious Miss Terious, the reason Lightning Lad was kidnapped, some of the Substitute Heroes, Mr. Mxyzptlk versus Mon-El and Superboy, and the Devil's Dozen. Also, I don't know why, but I think Lightning Lad will get a human arm. Anyone who can put all that in *one* issue is really nuts! —M. Shelby Silver, Baltimore, Md.

(By now you know that Nelson did it all and more—including an appearance of the Super-Pets and the return of Bouncing Boy. And, since Nels admits to being a contributor to MAD and the author of THE INFERIOR FIVE, we figure he *must* be nuts! —Ed.)

\* \* \*

Dear Editor: It is very rarely that I am really satisfied with a comic, and still stranger for me to praise it, but in this case I seem to have no alternative. What a magnificent display your October cover presented! Universo dominates, his "evil eye" pendant gleaming at the reader. Please don't bring him back and make him sink to robbing banks; just reprint this story every five years. Now, may I present some criticisms? As you have doubtless been informed by other budding Egyptologists, the Egyptians wore white generally. But using Horus for the name of the falcon was a stroke of genius. When you sent Colossal Boy to old England, I hoped you would introduce Beowulf, Guthrum, or Alfred the Great instead of simply transporting a few score later Medieval soldiers to the seventh century. You certainly edited my loud complaint about characterization in the letter column and, what's far better, you refuted it with the wonderful touch of presenting Universo's immense capacity for good in the person of his son. If you publish more such stories, thanks to James Shooter and Curt Swan, I predict that ye Editor will have to fight his way into the office, through congratulatory mail! —A. C. Bethune, Ottawa, Ont., Canada.

(Just blame the Egyptian costumes on our hue-happy colorist. And we'd remind you that one can't be expected to run into a celebrity in every era. We think the Legion did mighty well to meet an Inca, Napoleon, and Kublai Khan. For the rest of your letter, our blushes of modesty tell the tale! —Ed.)

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Send all comments, preferably on a postal card, to THE LEGION OUTPOST, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022. Please include your Zip Code.

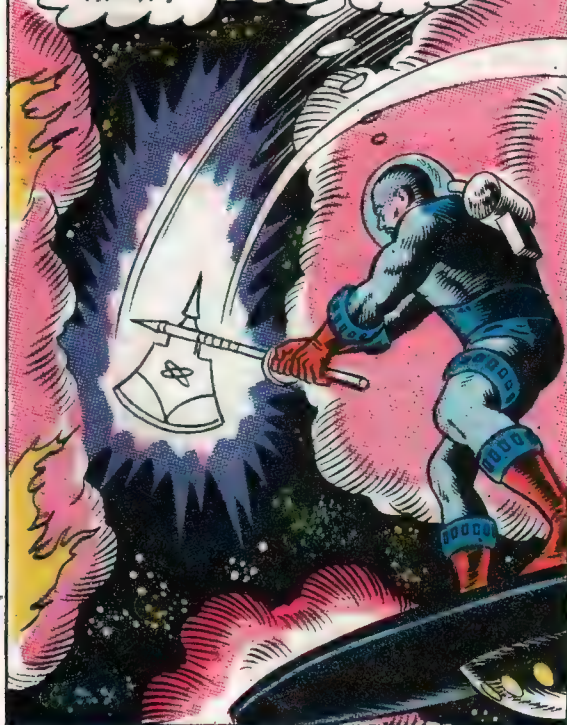


PART  
II

# "SLAIN BY THE SUN-EATER!"

...AND AS THE AWESOME CLOUD OF LIVING, PULSATING ENERGIES ADVANCES UNTHINKING INTO THE MOUTH OF THE TRAP... THE FIRST BLOW IS STRUCK!

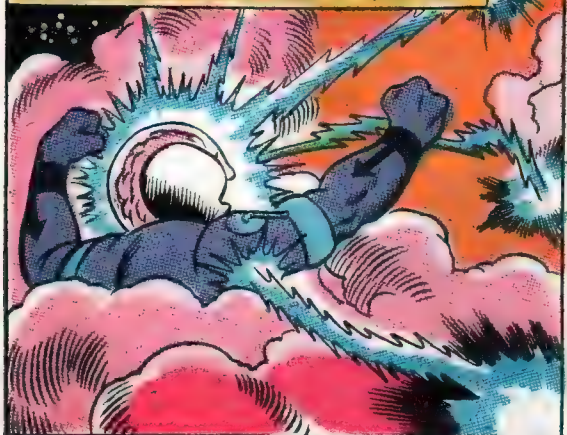
IT WORKS! JUST AS THAROK SAID, THE BEEFED-UP POWER OF MY ATOMIC AXE IS ENOUGH TO SLICE THROUGH THE CLOUDY ENERGIES... I CAN SUCCESSFULLY DIVIDE IT INTO SMALLER, BUT IDENTICAL MASSES... NOW IT'S UP TO THE OTHERS TO DESTROY THEM!



THEN... AS A SEMBLANCE OF HUMAN EMOTION OF RAGE... BUT A MILLION TIMES STRONGER... SWEEPS THROUGH EACH SEGMENT, PLANET-SPLITTING FORCE-BOLTS LASH OUT... ONLY TO BE MET BY THE EQUALLY DEVASTATING POWER OF VALIDUS!



WITH UNCONTROLLABLE FURY, THE GARGANTUAN FIGURE WADES INTO THE MASS, COUNTERING ENERGY WITH ENERGY... FORCE WITH FORCE... DESTROYING, BIT BY BIT, THE VAPOROUS PLASMA...



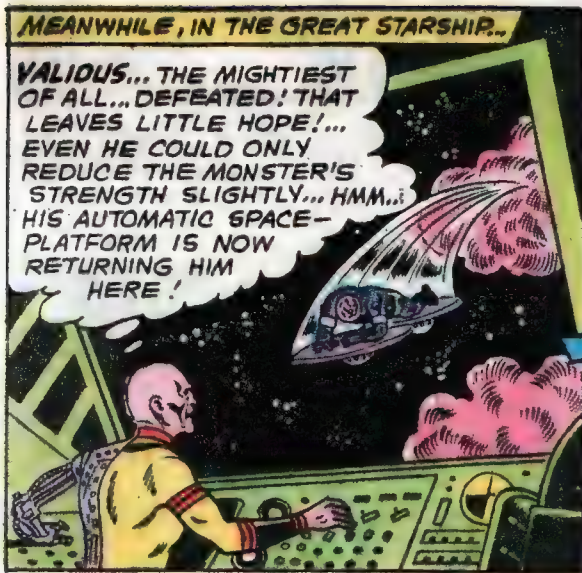
ONLY TO STAGGER OUT MINUTES LATER... EXHAUSTED... CHARRED... OVERWHELMED BY THE LIMITLESS FORCE OF THE SUN-EATER!





MEANWHILE, IN THE GREAT STARSHIP...

VALIDUS... THE MIGHTIEST OF ALL... DEFEATED! THAT LEAVES LITTLE HOPE!... EVEN HE COULD ONLY REDUCE THE MONSTER'S STRENGTH SLIGHTLY... HMM... HIS AUTOMATIC SPACE-PLATFORM IS NOW RETURNING HIM HERE!



VALIDUS... SAID TO BE STRONGER THAN I... FELLED! I MUST LEARN FROM HIS MISTAKE... USE MY HEAD INSTEAD OF MY MUSCLE... PERHAPS MY HEAT VISION...

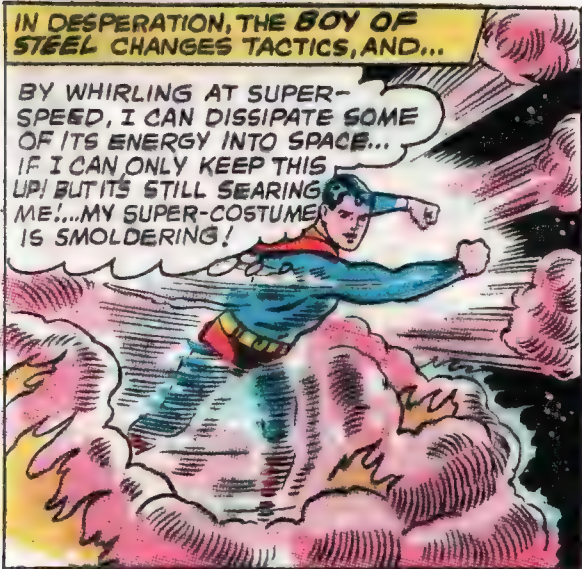


OH, NO! IT ABSORBED MY HEAT VISION AND FED ON IT! IT'S SUDDENLY GROWN AND ENVELOPED ME! AUGHH! IT CONTAINS ANTI-ENERGY AND ANTI-MATTER... IT CAN'T DESTROY ME... BUT... WHAT PAIN!



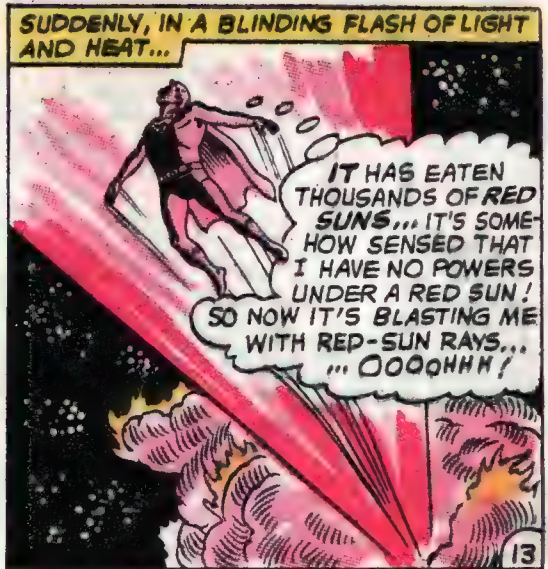
IN DESPERATION, THE BOY OF STEEL CHANGES TACTICS, AND...

BY WHIRLING AT SUPER-SPEED, I CAN DISSIPATE SOME OF ITS ENERGY INTO SPACE... IF I CAN ONLY KEEP THIS UP! BUT IT'S STILL SEARING ME!... MY SUPER-COSTUME IS SMOLDERING!

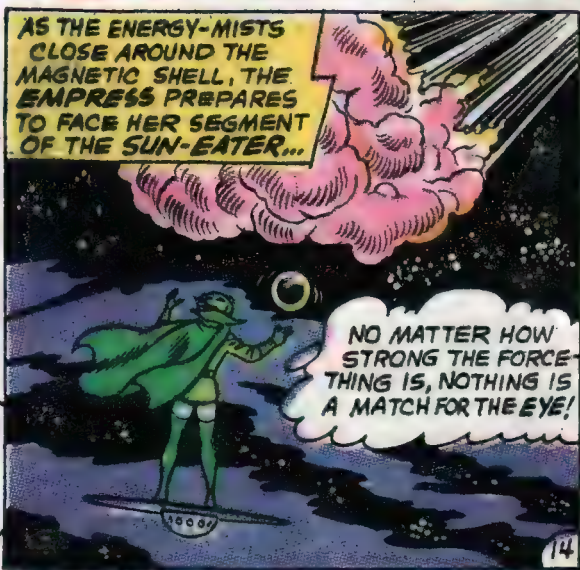
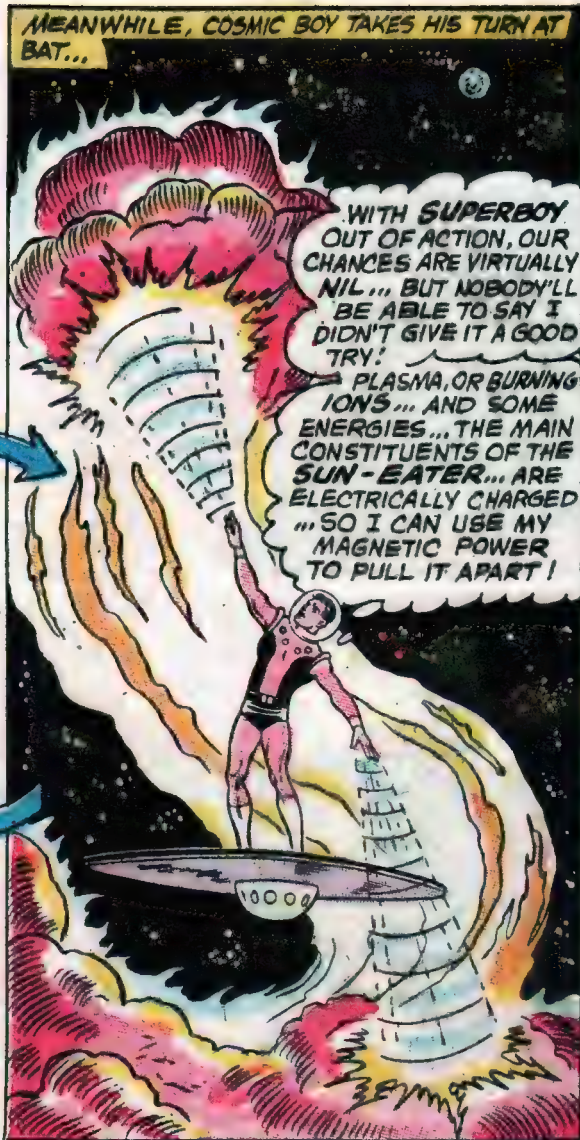
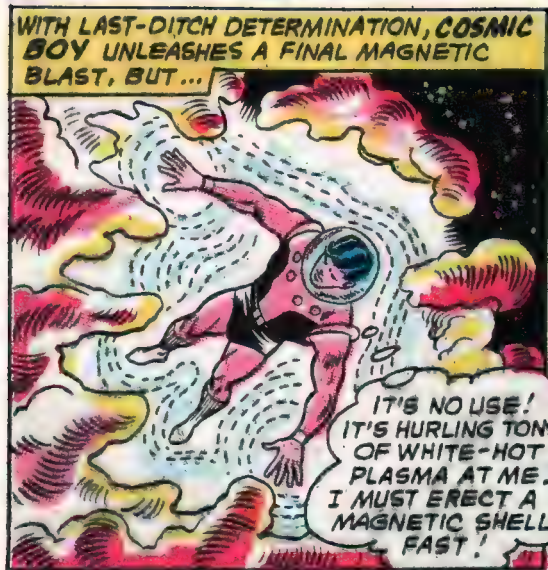
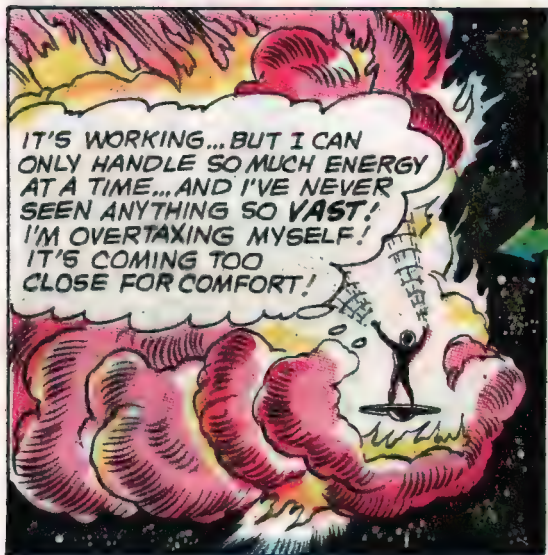
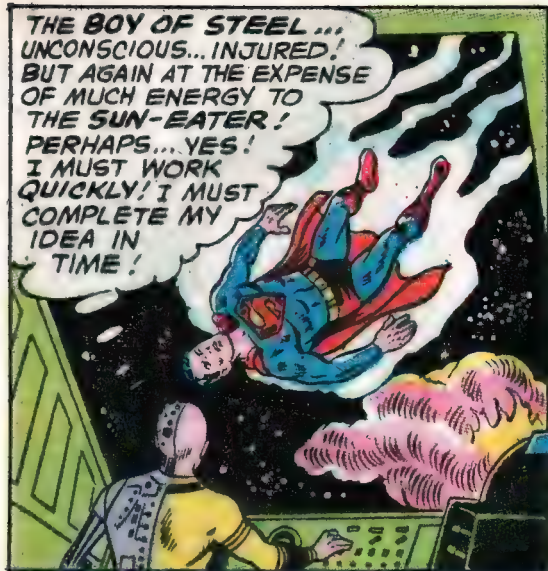


SUDDENLY, IN A BLINDING FLASH OF LIGHT AND HEAT...

IT HAS EATEN THOUSANDS OF RED SUNS... IT'S SOMEHOW SENSED THAT I HAVE NO POWERS UNDER A RED SUN! SO NOW IT'S BLASTING ME WITH RED-SUN RAYS... OOOOHHH!

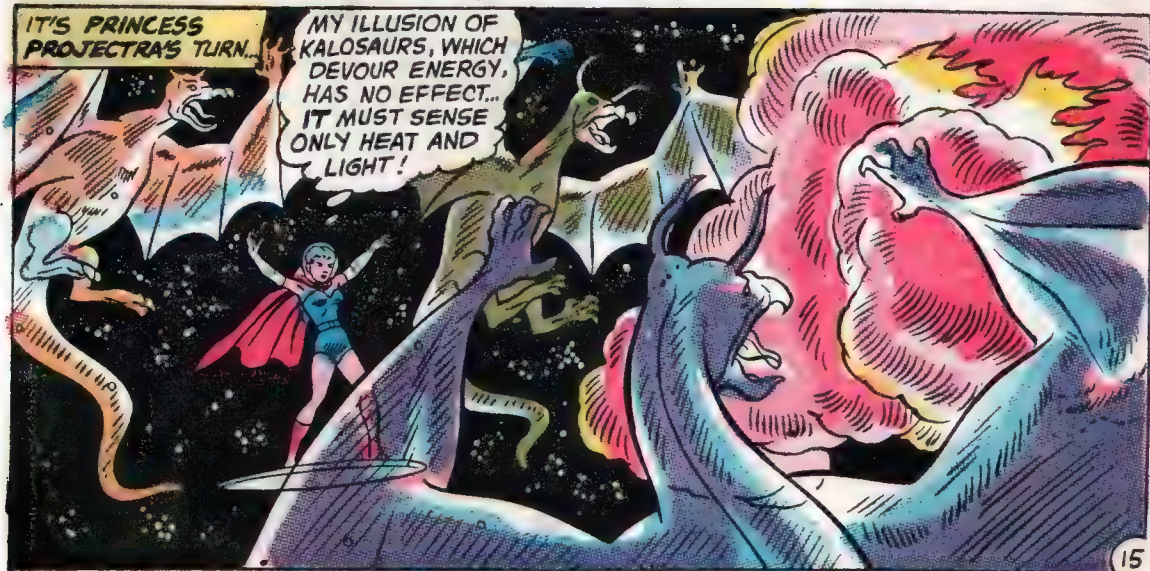
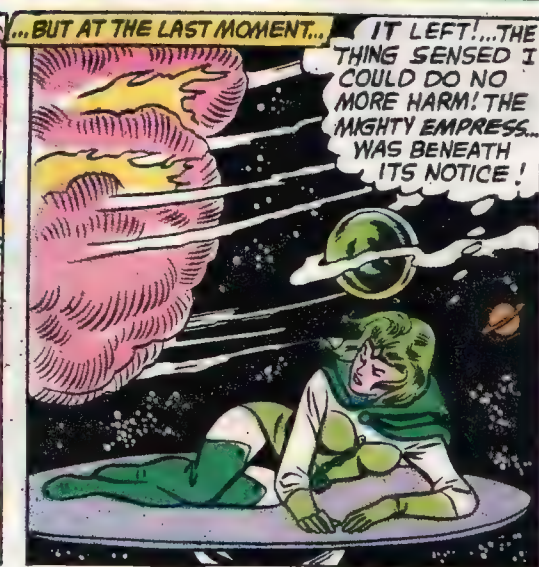
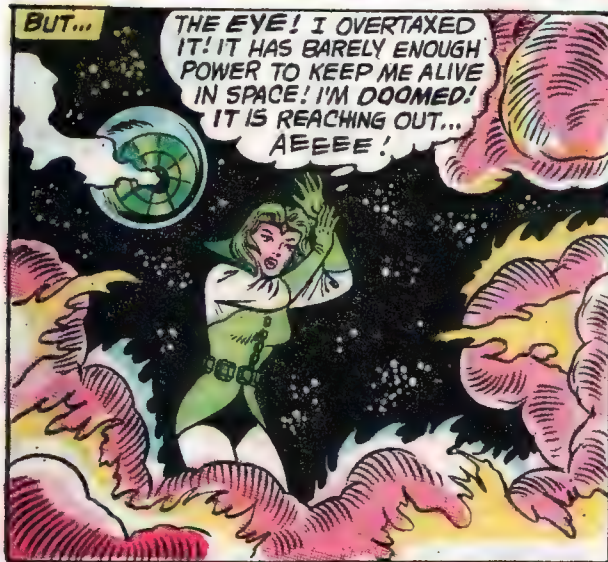
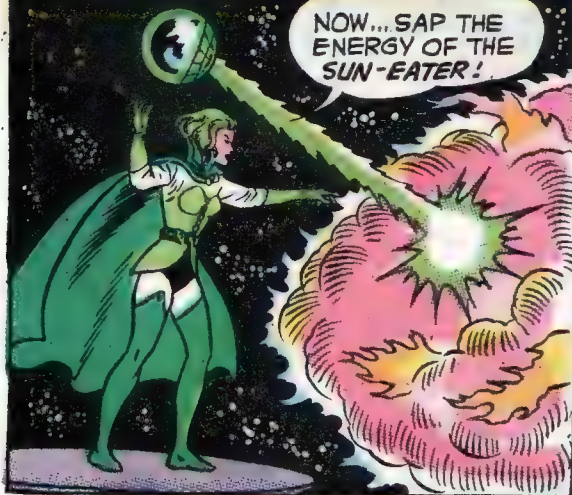




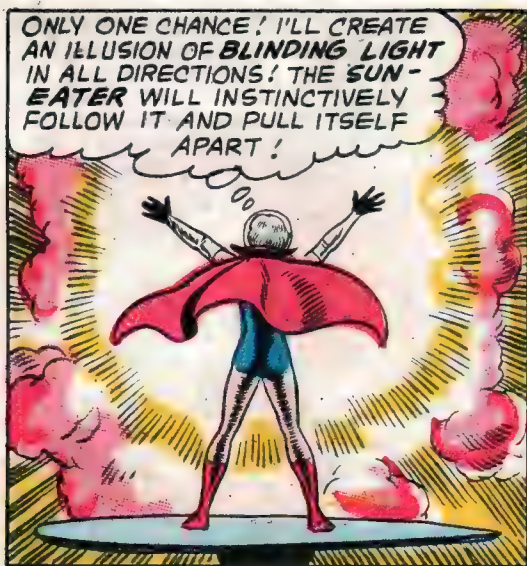




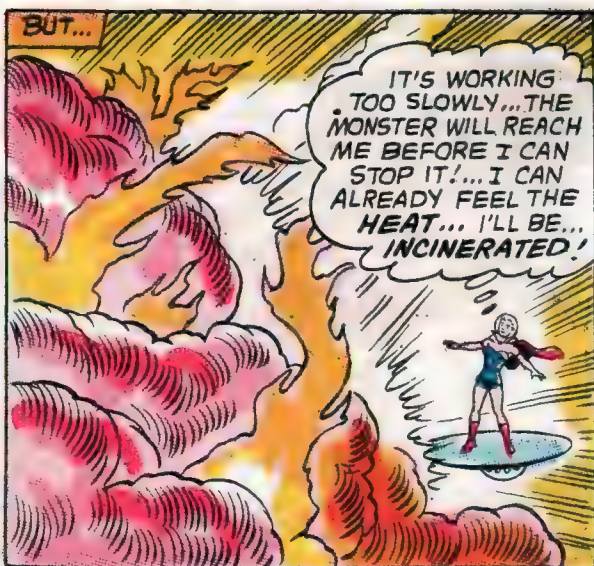
THE EYE GIVES ITS POSSESSOR THE POWER  
TO LIVE IN THE CHILL AIRLESSNESS OF SPACE...





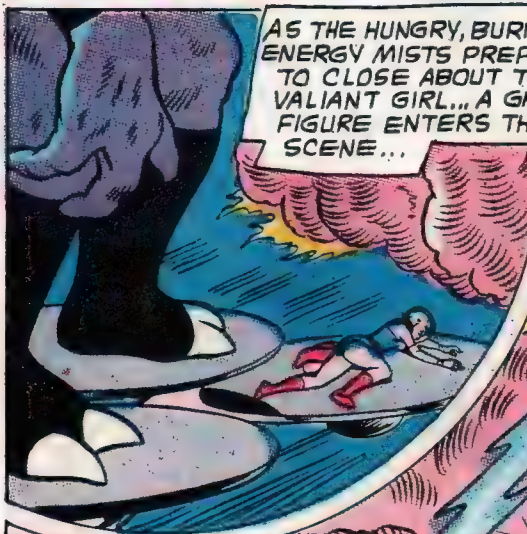


ONLY ONE CHANCE! I'LL CREATE AN ILLUSION OF **BLINDING LIGHT** IN ALL DIRECTIONS! THE **SUN-EATER** WILL INSTINCTIVELY FOLLOW IT AND PULL ITSELF APART!

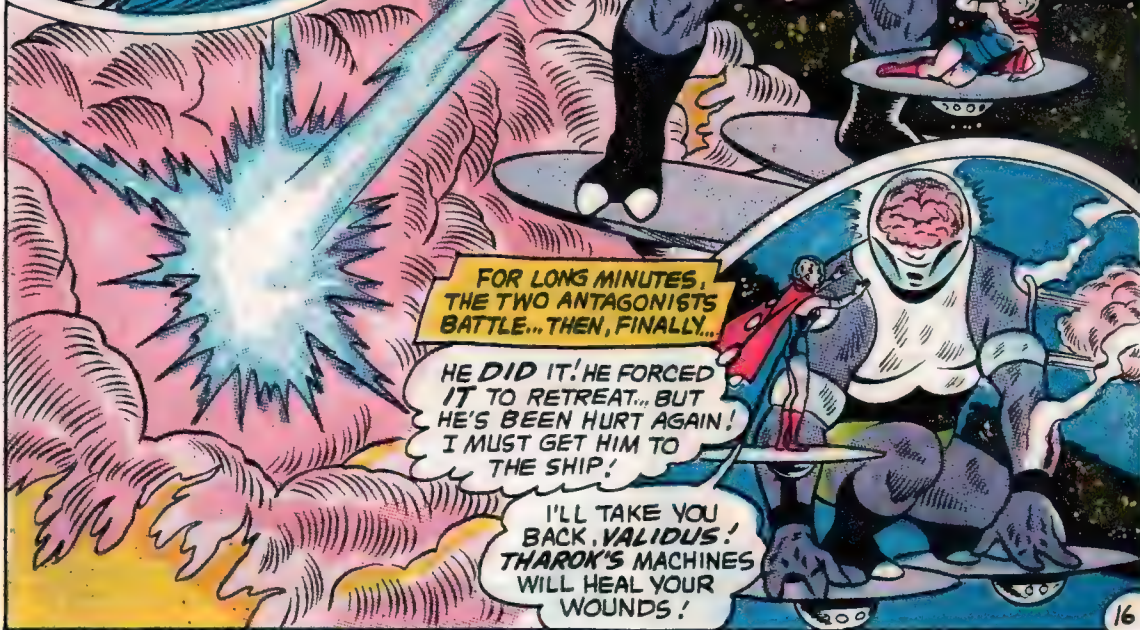


BUT...

IT'S WORKING... TOO SLOWLY... THE MONSTER WILL REACH ME BEFORE I CAN STOP IT!... I CAN ALREADY FEEL THE **HEAT**... I'LL BE... **INCINERATED!**



AS THE HUNGRY, BURNING ENERGY MISTS PREPARE TO CLOSE ABOUT THE VALIANT GIRL... A GRIM FIGURE ENTERS THE SCENE...



IT'S **VALIDUS**... HE'S ATTACKING THE **SUN-EATER**, EVEN THOUGH HE'S WOUNDED FROM HIS OWN BATTLE, HE LEFT THE SHIP TO SAVE ME! HE'S NOT REALLY EVIL... HE DOESN'T DELIBERATELY DO WRONG!

FOR LONG MINUTES, THE TWO ANTAGONISTS BATTLE... THEN, FINALLY...

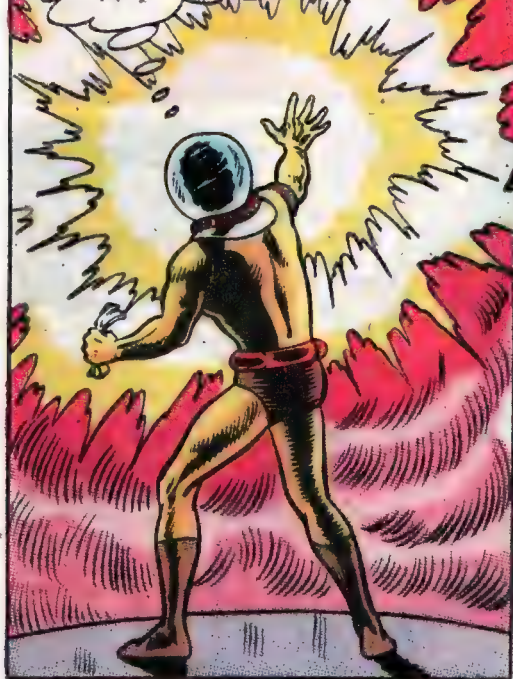
HE DID IT! HE FORCED IT TO RETREAT... BUT HE'S BEEN HURT AGAIN! I MUST GET HIM TO THE SHIP!

I'LL TAKE YOU BACK, **VALIDUS**! **THAROK'S** MACHINES WILL HEAL YOUR WOUNDS!

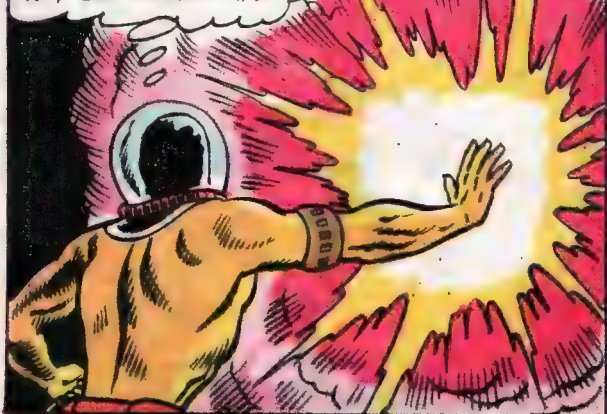


AT THAT MOMENT...

AH! MY PORTION  
OF THE SUN-EATER  
HAS ARRIVED!  
NOW... TO DESTROY  
IT!



I'LL ANNIHILATE THE  
MONSTER, PIECE BY  
PIECE! EVEN IT CAN'T  
SURVIVE MY HAND!  
THIS WILL PROVE  
MY SUPERIORITY!



BUT  
SUDDENLY...

OH, NO!... THE CREATURE HAS  
SOMEHOW SENSED MY WEAKNESS!  
I HAVE ONLY ONE HAND TO STRIKE  
WITH... AND IT HAS CREATED  
HUNDREDS OF LIMBS... I CAN'T STOP  
THEM ALL... THEY'RE GOING  
TO STRIKE ME!

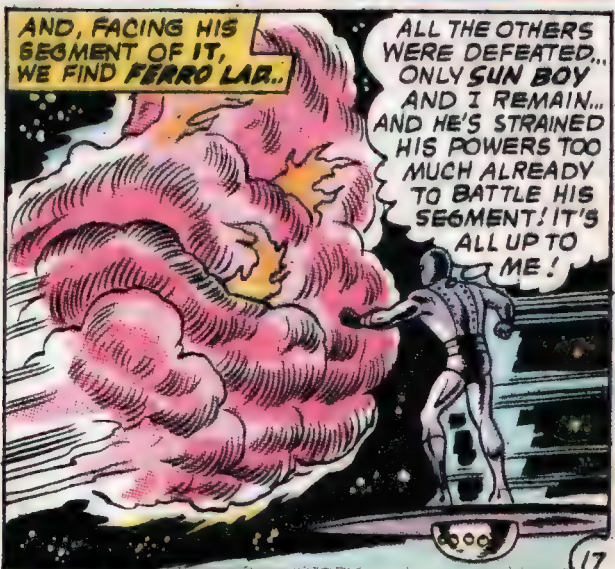


EHAHH!

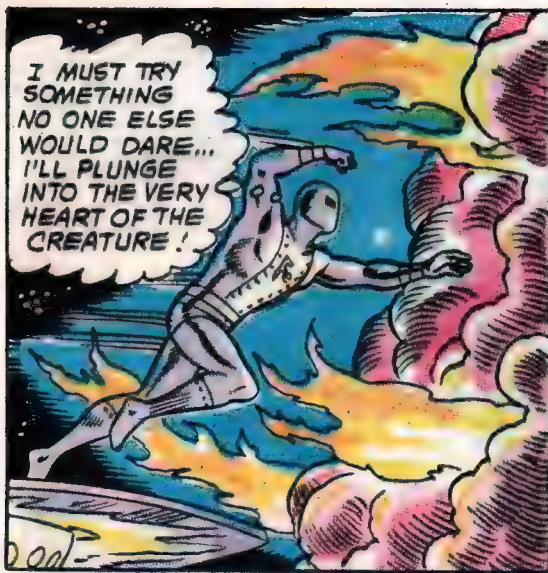


AND, FACING HIS  
SEGMENT OF IT,  
WE FIND FERRO LAR...

ALL THE OTHERS  
WERE DEFEATED...  
ONLY SUN BOY  
AND I REMAIN...  
AND HE'S STRAINED  
HIS POWERS TOO  
MUCH ALREADY  
TO BATTLE HIS  
SEGMENT! IT'S  
ALL UP TO  
ME!



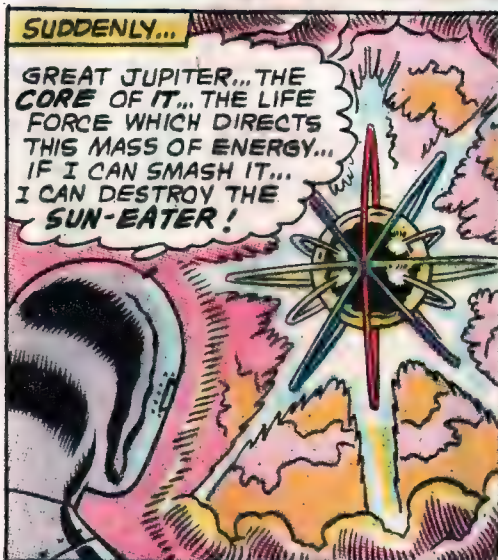




I MUST TRY  
SOMETHING  
NO ONE ELSE  
WOULD DARE...  
I'LL PLUNGE  
INTO THE VERY  
HEART OF THE  
CREATURE!

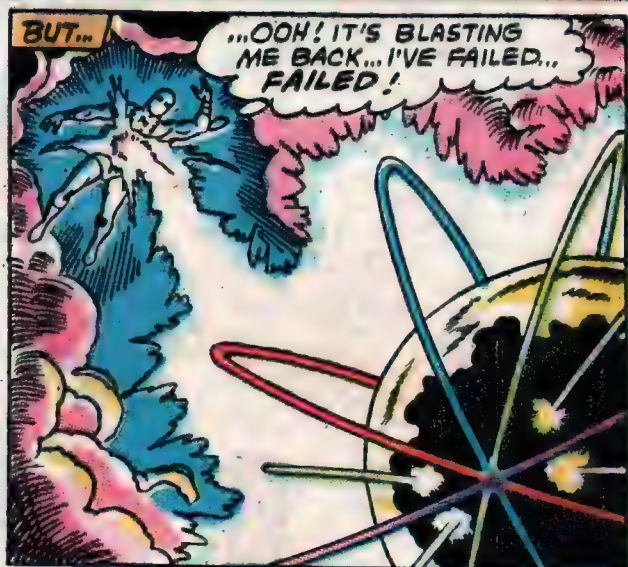


MY BODY IS WHITE HOT...  
ONLY MY WILL POWER IS  
KEEPING ME FROM MELTING  
... BUT I HAVE TO PENETRATE  
DESPER! DEEPER!



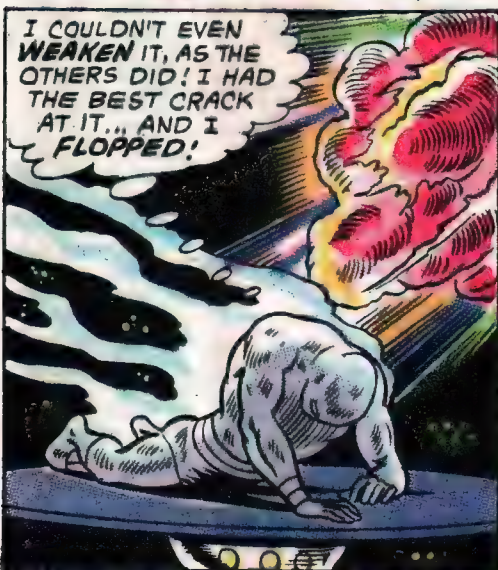
SUDDENLY...

GREAT JUPITER...THE  
CORE OF IT... THE LIFE  
FORCE WHICH DIRECTS  
THIS MASS OF ENERGY...  
IF I CAN SMASH IT...  
I CAN DESTROY THE  
SUN-EATER!

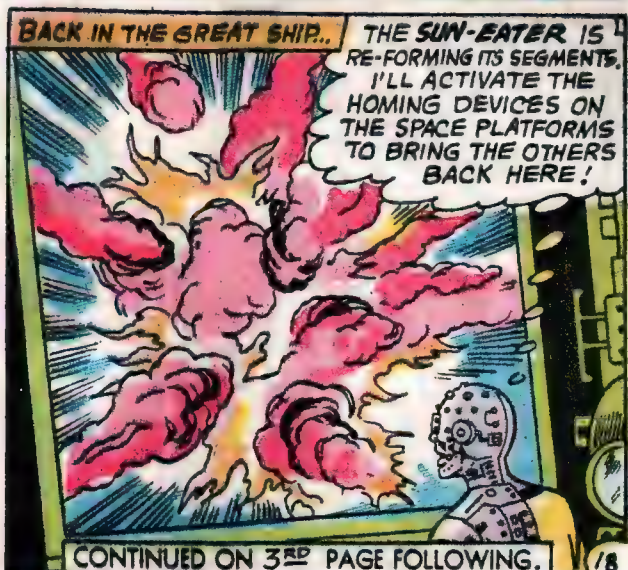


BUT...

...OOH! IT'S BLASTING  
ME BACK... I'VE FAILED...  
FAILED!



I COULDN'T EVEN  
WEAKEN IT, AS THE  
OTHERS DID! I HAD  
THE BEST CRACK  
AT IT... AND I  
FLOPPED!



BACK IN THE GREAT SHIP...

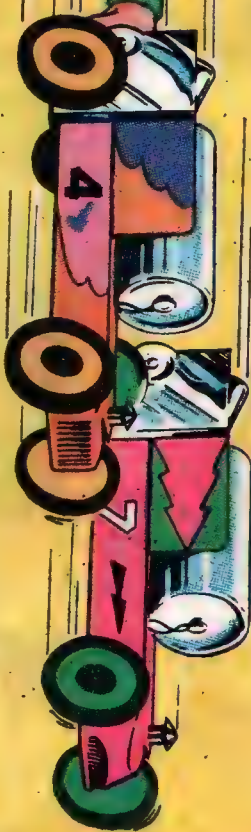
THE SUN-EATER IS  
RE-FORMING ITS SEGMENTS.  
I'LL ACTIVATE THE  
HOMING DEVICES ON  
THE SPACE PLATFORMS  
TO BRING THE OTHERS  
BACK HERE!

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.





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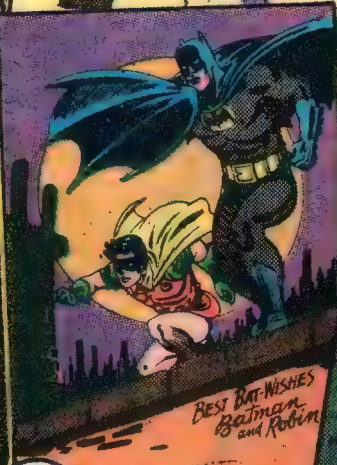


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**C**



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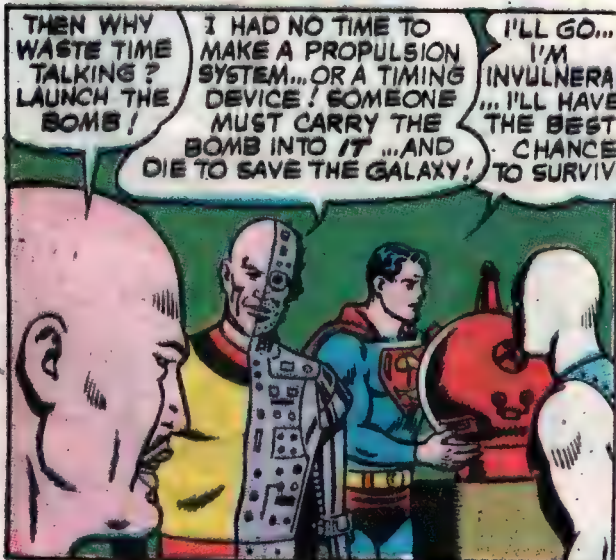
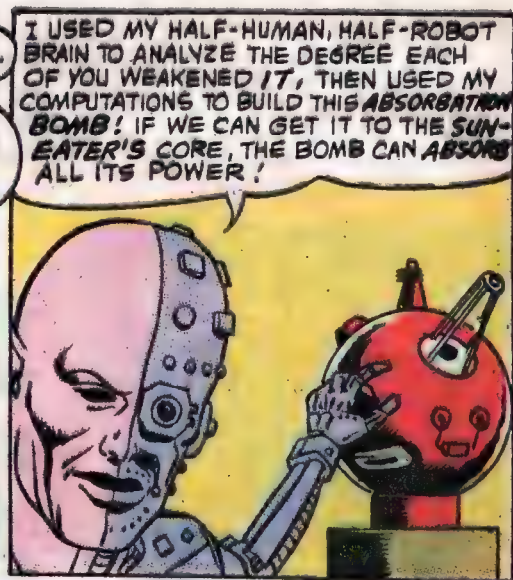
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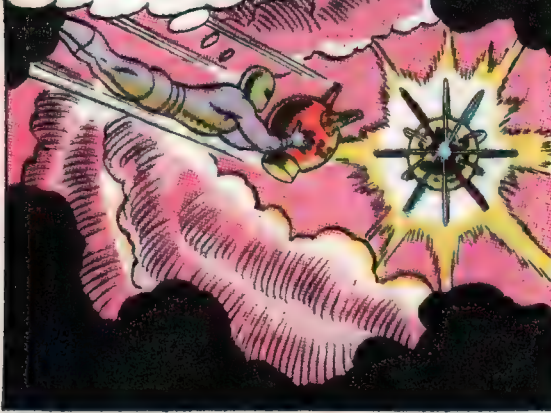




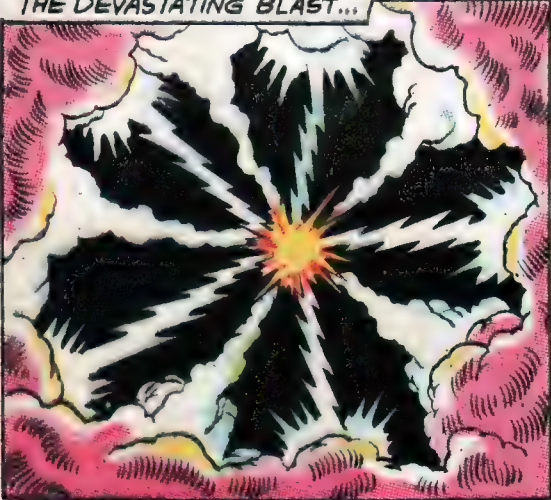


AND DEEP IN THE HEART OF THE NIMBUS...

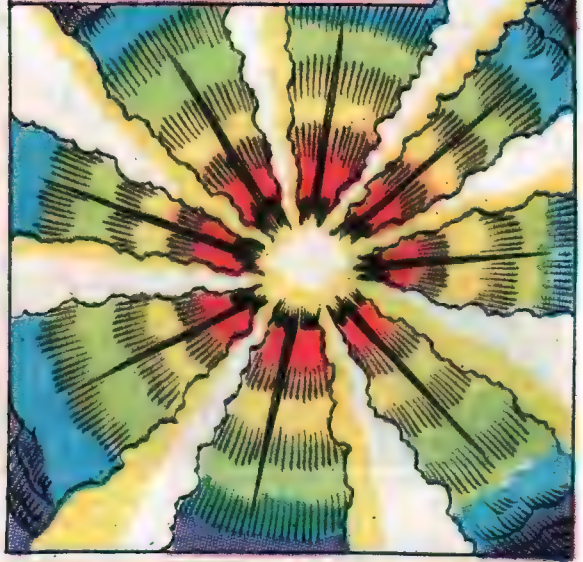
THERE IT IS...I MUSTN'T BE THROWN BACK THIS TIME. I'LL SET OFF THE BOMB...NOW!



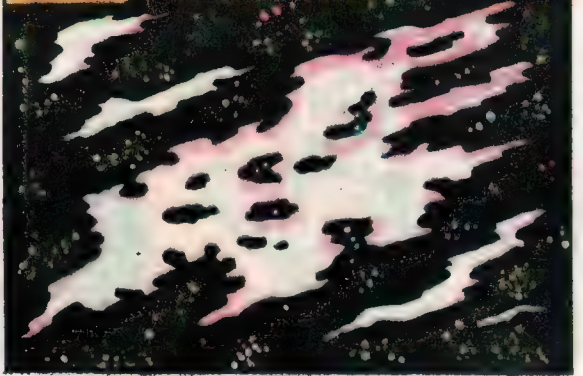
NEXT, THE SECOND PHASE TAKES PLACE...THE SCATTERED ENERGIES ARE ABSORBED BY THE DEVASTATING BLAST...



THEN...THE BLACKNESS OF SPACE IS TORN ASUNDER, AS THE ABSORBATRON BOMB SENDS ITS AWESOME FORCE CRACKLING THROUGH THE CLOUDY MASS...



AND, FINALLY, WITH THE SAME TERRIFYING SUDDENNESS WITH WHICH IT BEGAN...IS OVER...



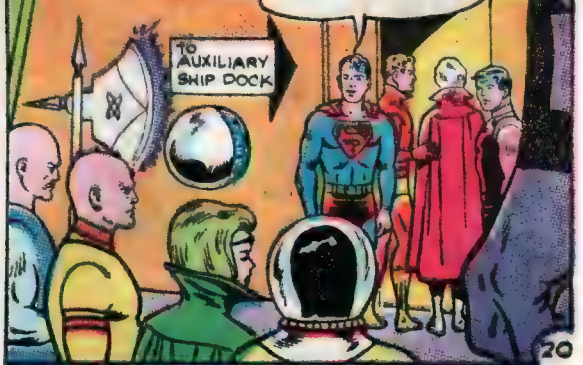
HE DID IT... HE SAVED THE GALAXY! BUT AT WHAT A COST!

HE GAVE HIS LIFE WILLINGLY ...AS ANY LEGIONNAIRE WOULD!

HIS LEGION CAREER WAS A BRIEF ONE...BUT HIS COURAGE WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN!

WITH THEIR COMRADE'S DEATH WEIGHING HEAVILY ON THEIR HEARTS, THE LEGIONNAIRES TURN TO LEAVE...

YOU OUTLAWS WILL RECEIVE YOUR PARDONS BY U.P. MESSENGER SOON! YOU CAN LIVE DECENT, NORMAL LIVES, WITH NO FEAR OF THE LAW!







FOOLS! DO YOU REALLY THINK WE'LL REFORM ON YOUR SAY-SO? BAH! **EMPRESS!** STOP THEM!

THE DOOR SHUT!

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?



IDIOTS! HAVEN'T YOU REALIZED YET? WE'RE TEAMING UP TO **CONQUER THE GALAXY!** THANKS FOR BRINGING US TOGETHER! TO SHOW OUR REGARD, WE'LL KILL YOU ALL **QUICKLY!**

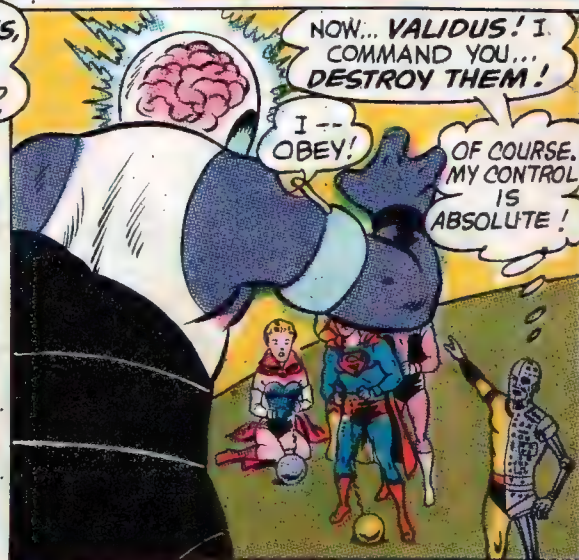
YOU CAN'T... WE'LL... UH...



YOU'RE STILL TOO WEAK FROM YOUR BATTLE WITH IT... THE **EMPRESS** WILL PUT YOU ALL IN FETTERS!

SEE, **LEGIONNAIRES**, HOW MY EMERALD EYE HOLDS YOU HELPLESS?

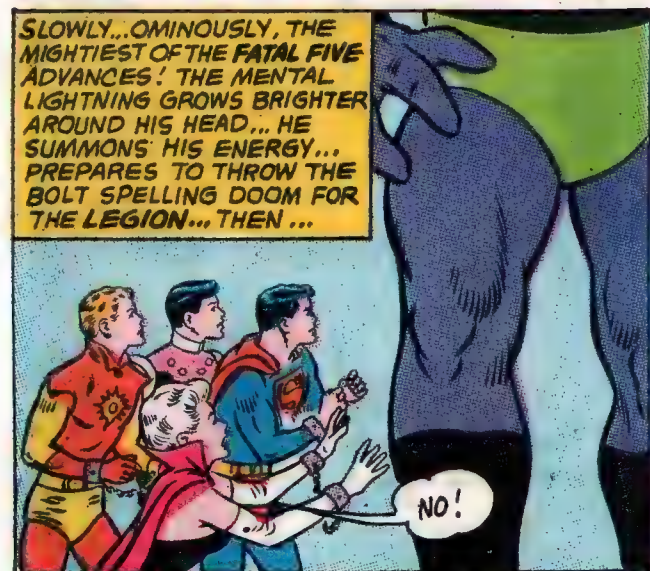
IT'S BOUND ME WITH **KRYPTONITE CHAINS!**



NOW... **VALIDUS!** I COMMAND YOU... **DESTROY THEM!**

I -- OBEY!

OF COURSE. MY CONTROL IS **ABSOLUTE!**



**SLOWLY... OMINOUSLY, THE MIGHTIEST OF THE FATAL FIVE ADVANCES! THE MENTAL LIGHTNING GROWS BRIGHTER AROUND HIS HEAD... HE SUMMONS HIS ENERGY... PREPARES TO THROW THE BOLT SPELLING DOOM FOR THE LEGION... THEN ...**

NO!



**VALIDUS...** YOU RISKED YOUR LIFE TO SAVE MINE... CAN YOU KILL ME NOW? FIGHT OFF **THAROK'S** EVIL INFLUENCE! TRY... YOU CAN DO IT!

**VALIDUS!** DESTROY THEM! YOU HAVE NO CHOICE!



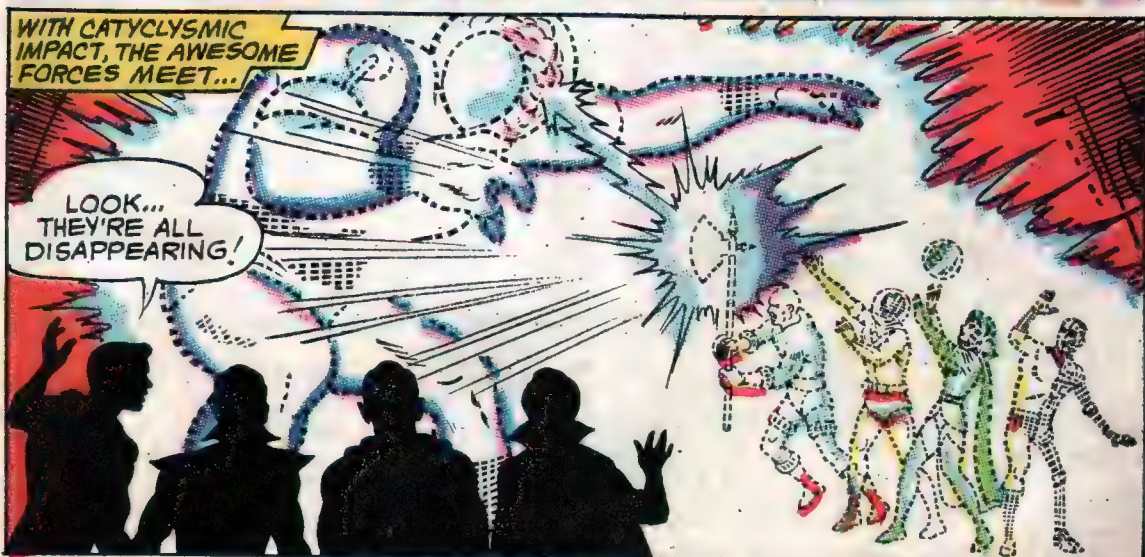


YOU'RE EVIL... I WILL DESTROY YOU FIRST!

YOU CAN'T DEFY ME! PERSUADER... EMPRESS! MANO! KILL HIM!



WITH CATYCLYSMIC IMPACT, THE AWESOME FORCES MEET...

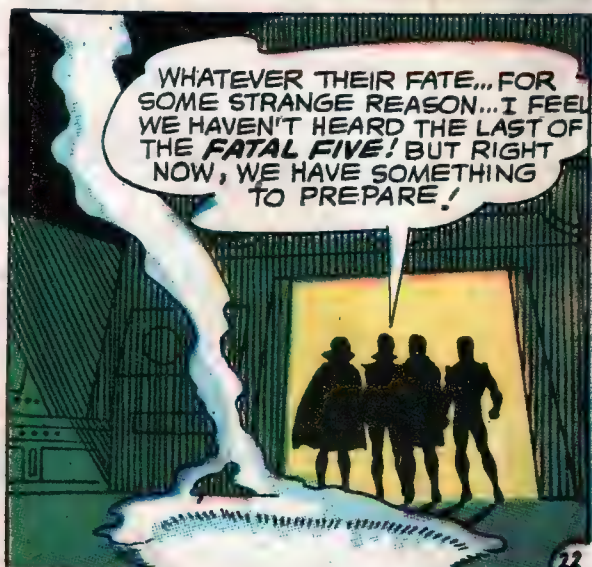


LOOK... THEY'RE ALL DISAPPEARING!



ARE THEY... DEAD?

WHO CAN SAY? COULD EVEN THAT TERRIBLE ONSLAUGHT HAVE DESTROYED *VALIDUS*? ...OR COULD IT HAVE BURST A DIMENSIONAL BARRIER THAT SENT THEM ALL INTO SOME LIMBO?



WHATEVER THEIR FATE... FOR SOME STRANGE REASON... I FEEL WE HAVEN'T HEARD THE LAST OF THE *FATAL FIVE*! BUT RIGHT NOW, WE HAVE SOMETHING TO PREPARE!



LATER, WHEN THE OTHER LEGIONNAIRES HAVE RETURNED FROM THEIR MISSION...

NOT EVEN MY COMPUTER BRAIN CAN FIND A WAY TO GATHER THE SCATTERED PARTICLES THAT WERE FERRO LAD FROM MILLIONS OF MILES OF SPACE, INVISIBLE KID!

I KNOW, BRAINIAC 5... BUT WE'LL STILL HAVE A MEMORIAL TO HIM...

...THAT SPECIAL MISSILE, WHICH WILL STAND THROUGH ETERNITY, ON THE CEMETERY SATELLITE, SHANGHALIA, THE RESTING PLACE OF HEROES FROM ALL OVER THE UNIVERSE!

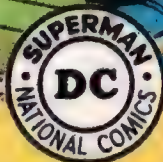
FERRO LAD'S SACRIFICE WILL BE REMEMBERED FOREVER!

IN MEMORIAM ANDREW NOLAN (FERRO LAD) A MUTANT WHOSE NON-HUMAN FACE WAS KEPT HIDDEN BEHIND A MASK. HE GAVE HIS LIFE TO SAVE THIS GALAXY.

The End

WATCH THOSE SPARKS!

IT'S A SURE WAY OF GETTING A HOT FOOT--OR WORSE!



DC NEEDS YOU---  
HAVE A DURABLE CHRISTMAS  
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

HENRY BOLTINOFF



# DIRECT CURRENTS

Greetings again! Time to peek into the Old Electrician's fuse box and see what sizzles for the near future. Ah! We have a good selection of electrifying adventures coming up. Here's the line-up...

The February **STRANGE ADVENTURES**, No. 197, features three dazzling weirdies bound to shake you up: "THE EGGS THAT HATCHED ROBOTS," "THE HOSTILE HAMLET," and "ALIEN FOR RENT!" It's on sale Dec. 27.

Why was giving away a medal at EASY COMPANY impossible? You'll find the TNT answer in SGT. ROCK's latest exploit—"ONE MEDAL FOR EASY!" It's in the March **OUR ARMY AT WAR**, No. 178, on sale Jan. 3.

Who was the savage ape-man that first warred against, then joined the rip-roaring RANGERS? The shocking solution explodes in the titanic April issue of **TOMAHAWK**, No. 109, which goes on sale Jan. 3.

An Atlantean ogre from eons past... an atomic warhead set to blow up the seas... and the return of the OCEAN MASTER! Together, they spell the SEA KING's latest adventure, in April's **AQUAMAN**, No. 32, on sale Jan. 3.

The **NEW BLACKHAWK ERA** reaches a smash climax in the March issue, No. 230, as the **MAGNIFICENT 7** burst out in seven NEW identities, and prove at last that they're not "JUNK-HEAP HEROES!" On sale Jan. 10.

**F.T. BOAT SKIPPER CAPT. STORM**'s wooden leg sticks him into the kind of battle situation he never expected, in the startling tale—"SAVE MY ISLAND!" April issue, No. 18, on sale Jan. 10.

The **SPACE CANINE PATROL AGENTS** are back... and they look like the only hope to save **SUPERBOY** and **KRYPTO** from a **KRYPTONITE** trap! Can you guess which **HOUND** will rescue the pair? **March**, No. 136, on sale Jan. 5.

It's a whacky world when **DR. RIGORO MORTIS** and **SUPER-HOOD** menace it—and **ROBBY REED** spins his dial to become... **THE FREAK SUPER-HEROES**... **WHOOZIS**, **WHATSIS** and **HOWZIS!** **March** **HOUSE OF MYSTERY**, No. 165, on sale Jan. 5.

**SUPERGIRL**'s greatest exploits with her super-friends—that's the theme of the April 80 **PAGE GIANT**, No. 347, which hits the newsstands Jan. 10. Don't dare overlook this collection of all-time classics!

You are cordially invited to the wedding of **JIMMY OLSEN** and **LUCY LANE**, in the 100th issue of the red-haired reporter's mag. It's not an imaginary tale, but a genuine, 24 karat, 100% marriage! **March**—on sale Jan. 12.

Coming up in the March **GREEN LANTERN**, No. 51, on sale Jan. 12—"GREEN LANTERN'S EVIL ALTER EGO"—the arch-villain the **EMERALD CRUSADER** has to defeat—but doesn't **DARE** to!

Presenting the **SEA ANGELS**, as swingin' a bunch of cats as ever sailed the ocean! They're lovable—but they're **ALL TROUBLE!** You'll find 'em in the April **SEA DEVILS**, No. 34, on sale Jan. 17.

The mad maids of **KAMP KAREFREE** become teacher's pests at the **LITTLE BO-PEEP SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**—and who are they throwing the book at? Their teacher, **JERRY LEWIS!** April issue, No. 99, on sale Jan. 17.

The **TEEN TITANS** start out trying to help some youngsters in a small American town, and wind up in a wild adventure of foreign intrigue! You'll see it all in the April issue, No. 8, on sale Jan. 17.

There's **FOWL PLAY** in the March **BATMAN**, No. 190, on sale Jan. 19, when "THE PENGUIN TAKES A FLYER—INTO THE FUTURE" and leads an army of weapon-umbrellas against **BATMAN** and **ROBIN!**

## STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION (Act of October 23, 1962; Section 4369, Title 39, United States Code)

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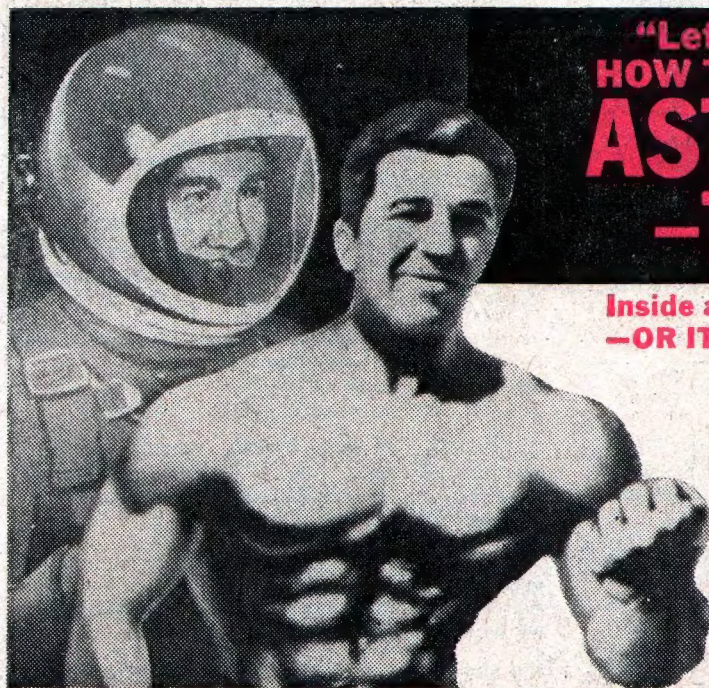
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| 472,000                                                  | 514,000                             |
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| 481,234                                                  | 522,096                             |
| 330                                                      | 330                                 |
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**says Ben Rebhuhn**  
whom experts called today's

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WHICH OF MY 181,000 PUPILS WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE?

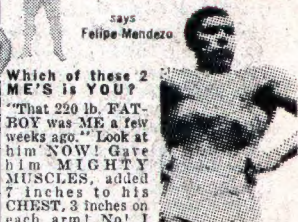
**I GAINED 60 LBS.  
OF SHAPELY-MIGHTY  
MUSCLES**



says JOHN SILL

"I added 7 inches to MY CHEST, 3½ INCHES to EACH ARM. No, Pal, You don't have to be a chicken-chested skinny weakling like I was only a few weeks ago.

**"I LOST 30 LBS.  
of dangerous  
UGLY FAT  
4 inches off my WAIST!"**



Which of these 2 ME'S is YOU?  
"That 220 lb. FAT-BOY was ME a few weeks ago." Look at him NOW! Gave him MIGHTY MUSCLES, added 7 inches to his CHEST, 3 inches on each arm! No! I don't care how fat and flabby you are. All I want is minutes a day in your home to make you over by the same method.

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CLUB

WITH

**ANDY GEORGE**

**"BATTLE GROUNDS OF THE WORLD!"**

LOOK, GEORGE! I'VE FINISHED THE SET-UP OF ALL THE BATTLE GROUNDS OF THE WORLD! SEE, HERE'S THE NORMANDY BEACHHEAD... OVER THERE IS THE SNOW-COVERED RUSSIAN FRONT... AND DOWN THERE IS A JAPANESE-HELD ISLAND IN THE PACIFIC.

HEY...! THAT MEANS WE CAN USE OUR NEW G.I. JOE ACTION SOLDIERS OF THE WORLD™ IN THE BATTLE GROUNDS THEY FOUGHT IN!

THAT'S RIGHT! LET'S PUT THE GERMAN SOLDIERS IN THEIR BUNKERS ON THE NORMANDY BEACHHEAD!

BOY, LOOK AT THEIR LUGAR PISTOLS AND SCHMEISSER MACHINE GUNS... THEY EVEN HAVE IRON CROSS MEDALS TO WEAR ON THEIR CHESTS.

OKAY... NOW I'LL BRING UP THE BRITISH COMMANDOS WITH THEIR STEN SUB-MACHINE GUNS AND VICTORIA CROSS MEDALS.

WHAT'S THAT AREA, ANDY?

THAT'S A FRENCH VILLAGE AND THESE FOREIGN SOLDIERS ARE FRENCH RESISTANCE FIGHTERS. SEE THEIR RADIO SETS AND MAS MACHINE GUNS?

AND THIS AREA COVERED BY SOAP FLAKES... IS THE SNOW-COVERED RUSSIAN FRONT. HERE ARE THE RUSSIAN INFANTRYMEN WITH THEIR FUR HATS, DP LIGHT MACHINE GUNS AND ORDER OF LENIN MEDALS.

BANZAI!! LET'S PUT THE JAPANESE IMPERIAL SOLDIERS ON THE PACIFIC ISLAND! HEY... THEY HAVE AUTHENTIC FIELD PACKS AND ARISAKA RIFLES.

OKAY... READY? I'LL BRING UP THE AUSTRALIAN JUNGLE FIGHTERS CUTTING THEIR WAY THROUGH THE ISLAND'S JUNGLE UNDERBRUSH. THEY LOOK JUST LIKE REAL AUSTRALIANS WITH THEIR CAMPAIGN HATS AND SHORT PANTS!

THIS IS A TERRIFIC SET-UP, ANDY... AND THESE NEW G.I. JOE ACTION SOLDIERS OF THE WORLD ARE THE GREATEST I'VE EVER SEEN! Y'KNOW, WHEN YOU ADD THESE TO OUR REGULAR G.I. JOES... YOU REALLY HAVE SOMETHING! YOU HAVE A BATTLE GROUND OF THE WORLD! AND THAT MEANS BOYS LIKE US EVERYWHERE CAN SET UP REALISTIC BATTLEFIELDS... WITH REALISTIC LOOKING G.I. JOE SOLDIERS OF THE WORLD! ALL YOU G.I. JOE CLUB MEMBERS SHOULD REALLY HAVE A LOOK AT THESE GREAT NEW G.I. JOE ACTION SOLDIERS OF THE WORLD. AND IF YOU AREN'T ALREADY A MEMBER OF THE G.I. JOE CLUB... JOIN NOW! THERE'S OVER 400,000 OF US! SEND IN THE COUPON ON THIS PAGE WITH 50¢ IN COIN AND YOU'LL GET YOUR G.I. JOE DOG TAG, MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE, IDENTIFICATION CARD FOR YOUR WALLET, IRON-ON TRANSFER FOR YOUR T-SHIRT AND CATALOGUE. MAIL IN YOUR COUPON TODAY, FELLOWS!



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